

# Statement of Accounts 2020/21

















# Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority Statement of Accounts 2020/21

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# **Narrative Report:**

#### 1. Introduction

The Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom requires a Narrative Report to be published by local authorities in England, Northern Ireland and Wales with their financial statements. The purpose of the narrative report is to provide information on Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority, its main objectives and strategies, to provide a commentary on how the Combined Authority has used its resources to achieve its desired outcomes, and to demonstrate how it is equipped to deal with the challenges ahead.

This report provides the narrative to Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority's financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2021.

## 2. Organisational Overview and External Environment

The Combined Authority is made up of eight founding members across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough. Each of the following Constituent Authorities is represented by their nominated representative or substitute at Combined Authority meetings.

Cambridge City Council

Cambridgeshire County Council

East Cambridgeshire District Council

Fenland District Council

**Huntingdonshire District Council** 

Peterborough City Council

South Cambridgeshire District Council

The Business Board also has representation on the Combined Authority Board. By virtue of their office, the Chair of the Business Board is the voting representative on the Combined Authority and the Deputy Chair is the substitute representative.

The following bodies have co-opted member status: The Police and Crime Commissioner for Cambridgeshire Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Fire Authority Clinical Commissioning Group The Business Board was constituted as a non-statutory body to be the Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) for the region. It is independent of the Combined Authority operating as a private-public sector partnership, focusing on the key business sectors to provide strategic leadership and drive growth in the area.

The Business Board builds upon the strengths of established LEP services to create a stronger new model and focuses on:

- Local Industrial Strategy strategy development, implementation oversight, and monitoring of key objectives
- Place-based growth plans including master plan development for our market towns, oversight of implementation, making investment recommendations, strategically managing business growth zones (including Enterprise Zones)
- Key sectors determining our priority sectors, agreeing plans for their growth, overseeing the products and services that directly stimulate sector growth
- International trade and exports import and export strategies, fostering key places in the world for trade accords, with particular focus on post-Brexit trade and export planning.
- Skills strategy and delivery plans to achieve a pipeline of people with skills required by business.
- Major investment opportunities maintaining an overview and management of the pipeline of the single most direct investment opportunities facing the area.
- Devolution employment improvement and increased exporting impacting on GVA.

The Business Board gives commerce a stronger voice in developing the Combined Authority's plans and decision making, and is committed to advising the Combined Authority on achieving its Growth Ambition. It ensures that a clear business perspective is brought forward as the Combined Authority seeks to be at the frontier of accelerating delivery and securing new investment models, with and across Government, the private sector and the local area.

The Combined Authority Board decides the strategic direction of the Combined Authority but delegates many of its decision-making powers for operational matters to the three Executive Committees, the Transport & Infrastructure Committee, the Skills Committee and the Housing & Communities Committee.

The Combined Authority has six subsidiary companies which have been set up to deliver specific objectives of the Combined Authority. The six companies are as follows:

Angle Holdings limited, Angle Developments East limited, One CAM limited, Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Business Growth Company limited, Peterborough HE Property Company ltd, and Peterborough R&D Property Company ltd

Neither Angle Holdings limited, nor its wholly owned subsidiary nor Angle Developments East limited, traded materially in 2020-21 and have not been consolidated into the accounts, the remaining four have been included and both Combined Authority only and group accounts are presented.

#### 3. Governance

Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority is responsible for ensuring that its business is conducted in accordance with the law and proper standards and that public money is safeguarded and properly accounted for and used economically, efficiently and effectively. The Combined Authority also has a duty under the Local Government Act 1999 to make arrangements to secure continuous improvement in the way in which its functions are exercised.

In discharging this overall responsibility, the Combined Authority is responsible for putting in place proper arrangements for the governance of its affairs, facilitating the effective exercise of its functions including arrangements for the management of risk.

The Business Board and Combined Authority Board work to a single Assurance Framework which has been approved by the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) It provides a robust, singular framework that brings cohesion to the work of the single officer team, ensuring clarity, transparency and openness for Government, partners and members of the public around governance and compliance processes, and a singular approach to the recommendation and decision-making processes of both Boards.

## 4. Operational Model

The Devolution Deal for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough sets out key ambitions for the Combined Authority to make our area a leading place in the world to live, learn and work. These include:

- Doubling the size of the local economy
- Accelerating house building rates to meet local and UK need
- Delivering outstanding and much needed connectivity in terms of transport and digital links
- Providing the UK's most technically skilled workforce
- Transforming public service delivery to be much more seamless and responsive to local need
- Growing international recognition for our knowledge-based economy

Improving the quality of life by tackling areas suffering from deprivation

A significant element of the devolution deal was the award of a single pot of investment. This single pot for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough CA initially comprised of a devolved, multi-year transport settlement and an additional long-term investment fund grant, worth up to £600 million over 30 years.

## 5. Risks and Opportunities

#### COVID-19

On 25 March 2020, the Combined Authority set out its response to COVID-19 to support recovery and formulated an approach covering an immediate, short term and medium-term response.

The immediate response was to remain 'open for business' with the Combined Authority's workforce being fully mobilised to work from home, meetings taking place virtually, and the Mayor's general power of competence being relied upon to make decisions.

During 2020/21, innovations to support local businesses affected by COVID-19 included:

- The re-design and re-purpose of resources towards growth coaching, advice, grants and equity investments, to provide a rapid response to support businesses.
- Supporting clients to access information regarding the Central Government Support Packages and to provide signposting to appropriate local sector Business networks.
- Allocate grant funding for short term support grants to COVID recovery and regrowth strategies for local firms.

The Combined Authority conducted a review of all priorities to focus on those which would support economic recovery following the impact of the pandemic. This review led to a refreshed budget and Medium-Term Financial plan (MTFP) being approved by the Board in June 2020.

The Combined Authority Board approved the budget for 2021/22 and MTFP for the four-year period to 2024/25 in January 2021. The MTFP set out assumed future funding streams and a full capital programme of investments for the period. The whole of the MTFP has been reviewed to consider risks to delivery and to focus on priorities which will support economic recovery.

The MTFP confirmed that the programmes and projects which are contained within the Business plan remain affordable within the expected funding envelope across the lifetime of the MTFP, whilst maintaining a £1m Contingency Reserve.

## **Administration of COVID grants**

The Combined Authority's COVID-19 response refocussed about £6m of resources to support small businesses and microbusiness with COVID capital grants.

The micro-grant scheme provided 128 grants to businesses, whilst the COVID-19 capital grant scheme funded 132 grants estimated to create or protect over 800 jobs.

The Combined Authority also worked closely with Constituent Authorities and Public Transport providers to support recovery, being the accountable body for funding to develop 'active travel' schemes, COVID related bus subsidies, and for providing additional 'home to school' travel.

#### **Our Growth Ambition**

The Combined Authority has a Growth Ambition Statement to summarise it's strategy and response to the Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Independent Economic Review (CPIER).

The CPIER endorsed the Devolution Deal ambition of doubling GVA over 25 years and said that growth is of strategic importance for the future global competitiveness of Britain. It emphasised the diversity of our economy and the difference between the challenges the strongly-growing large cities and other parts of the area face.

The CPIER has also thrown down a challenge by saying that current efforts are not enough to secure that growth. It has highlighted the risk that the Greater Cambridge economy may decelerate unless there is investment in transport infrastructure and housing. It provides clear evidence that we need to do more to develop the productivity of firms, raise skill levels, make home ownership affordable, address health and educational inequalities, and generate revenue to pay for public services in the future.

Not enough homes have been built in the past. The Combined Authority will therefore lead work to review future housing demand and needs. That review will take place in a way that makes new analysis available to support those of our planning authorities which have committed to review their plans in the near future.

New homes need to be affordable. The Combined Authority's Housing Strategy aims to exceed the 2,500 affordable homes committed to in the Devolution Deal. We will also use the new Spatial Framework and direct investment in new settlements to encourage extra affordable housing provision, including by developing homes for first time buyers with a price target based on earnings.

In striking a balance between the different possible patterns for future settlements through the Spatial Framework, the Combined Authority will encourage development, where good transport can be provided, including along transport corridors and new garden villages. By linking the Spatial Framework and Local Transport Plan, this approach will be based on ensuring that transport and other infrastructure investment precedes housing development.

The Combined Authority's identified key transport priorities reflect a commitment to improve connectivity both East to West and North to South, to reduce commuting times in line with a journey to work target of within 30 minutes, and to support future development. We are committed to rigorous prioritisation based on business cases which assess the impact of the projects on future growth.

Responding to the growth challenge means public sector interventions to help firms raise their productivity, especially outside the Greater Cambridge area. Our Local Industrial Strategy (LIS) reflects the CPIER's recommendations about key sectors and the drivers of productivity. It recognises the different economic roles that different towns play and will be about targeting support to businesses in areas that need it. It will focus on improving productivity, encouraging exporting and supporting digital connectivity for businesses.

The CPIER highlighted the existence of a low level of skills and educational aspiration in some communities, and mismatches with employer needs in the education system, alongside the high-skilled economy of Cambridge. The Combined Authority will continue to prioritise skills interventions, including the establishment of the new university in Peterborough with a course mix driven by local employer demand for skills in both public and private sectors, encouraging apprenticeships, and through the LIS to activate employer demand and motivate learners and their families to aspire.

The CPIER recognised that growing our economy is not just about our two large cities and emphasised the role of Market Towns. We will continue to support the Market Town Masterplans and, this year, we have started to enable delivery of the proposals that have evolved from those masterplans.

Growth, educational attainment, health and social mobility are linked. More skilled, more productive, higher-earning Market Towns will also be healthier. That requires consideration of how public services can best be organised to focus on improving the wider determinants of health and encouraging education aspiration.

## 6. Strategy and Resource allocation

## THE LOCAL ECONOMIC RECOVERY STRATEGY (LERS)

In the first half of 2020/21, the Combined Authority engaged in a collaborative process through significant co-ownership and broader business community, education and public consultation to produce a Local Economic Recovery Strategy. It was a product of the Covid-19 Local Economic Recovery Sub-Group, consisting of Local Authority economic development officers in partnership with representatives of all the key local business organisations. The strategy was recommended for adoption by the Business Board as its Covid-19 adapted version of the Local Industrial Strategy and was ratified by the CPCA main Board on the 30th September.

The Covid-19 Economic Recovery Strategy Mission is:

"To lead the nation out of recession - by <u>accelerating</u> the recovery, rebound and renewal of our economy and achieving our ambition to double GVA in a new and more digitally enabled, greener, healthier and more inclusive way than ever before.

The recovery strategy reflects our commitment to respond effectively to the specific needs of Greater Peterborough, the Fens, and Greater Cambridge – whilst building the connections and relationships that will unlock the full economic potential of the whole region.

#### LOCAL INDUSTRIAL STRATEGY

Implementing the Growth Ambition for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough requires a focussed Local Industrial Strategy (LIS) defining how the Combined Authority will support businesses and key sectors to grow and become more productive, and people in our communities to gain the skills for these jobs. Led by the Business Board in development and implementation, the LIS sets out priority productivity and skills activities for the Combined Authority for the medium-term. The LIS, which is co-produced with Government, explores the further support and investment national Government could offer to deliver the UK Industrial Strategy locally.

#### STRATEGIC SPATIAL FRAMEWORK

As part of the Devolution Deal, the Combined Authority has a commitment to produce a non-statutory spatial framework for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough, which will link to the other Combined Authority strategies. It will align essential infrastructure, housing and job growth, and set out how growth can be delivered. Phase 1 of the Framework was completed in 2018. Phase 2 is planned for 2021/22 which will include developing and maintaining a suitable evidence-base.

#### **SKILLS STRATEGY**

The Skills Strategy supports our vision of a local skills system that is world-class in matching the needs of our employers, learners and communities. The principles of the Strategy include simplifying access to skills support for employers and learners and tailoring interventions to appropriate geographies, sectors and learners by the development of the Progression and Apprenticeship Market Place, the new University of Peterborough and Adult Education Budget (AEB). The strategic priorities are ensuring local provision that is matched to industry need, making sure people are work-ready, raising aspirations, and influencing choices.

#### LOCAL TRANSPORT PLAN

Following devolution, the Combined Authority is now the Local Transport Authority with strategic transport powers. The Local Transport Plan (LTP) provides an overview of the area's aims and objectives, its strategies to address challenges and summarises the major transport schemes required to achieve targeted growth and place-making across the Combined Authority geography. The LTP was published in February 2020 but in order to reflect on the impacts of the COVID pandemic and any potential changes resulting from a number of councils' local plans being updated, it is anticipated that the LTP will be refreshed in 2021/22. There are a number of key, underpinning sub-strategies to the LTP that will also be updated to ensure they are aligned with emerging central and local government policy

#### 7. Outlook

Performance against the Combined Authority's 2017 devolution deal commitment, to double GVA over 25 years, is reported quarterly to the Combined Authority Board. GVA data from the Office of National Statistics has a significant publication time lag so the most recent data reported to the Board is only to the end of December 2018. As this is less than a year after the Combined Authority was set up it is too early to see the effect of the Combined Authority's interventions in the figures. The Combined Authority is still committed to doubling GVA and recognise that this will require action and investment by both the public and private sectors. It is the role of the Combined Authority to lead and to convene partners in order to make that happen.

Partnership and co-operation will be essential to delivery. The public sector in particular needs to work more closely to leverage all our resources, human and financial. We also need to depoliticise what we do about growth and build a consensus that gives our communities, businesses and central government the confidence that when they make decisions to live, grow and invest in our region they do so knowing there's not a better area in the country to do it.

Key and valued local partnerships for the Combined Authority include those with constituent authorities, with the Business Board and employers in the area, with the Greater Cambridge Partnership, and those involving cross-border working with neighbouring councils.

The Business and Skills Directorate and the Business Board, for which it supplies the executive support, is focused on the Combined Authority's vision to double our economy. Its strategic approach in achieving this is to:

- Improve the long-term capacity for growth in Greater Cambridge to support the expansion of this innovation powerhouse and, crucially, reduce the risk of any stalling in the long-term high growth rates that have been enjoyed for several decades.
- Increase sustainability and broaden the base of local economic growth, by identifying opportunities for high growth companies to accelerate business growth where there is greater absorptive capacity, beyond the current bottlenecks to growth in Greater Cambridge.
- Do this by expanding and building upon the clusters and networks that have enabled Cambridge to become a global leader in innovative growth, creating an economy-wide business support eco-system to promote inclusive business growth.

The Delivery and Strategy Directorate promotes the Mayor and Combined Authority's growth ambition by:

- Supporting their role as the Transport Authority, developing and overseeing the delivery of new transport schemes, developing the Local Transport Plan, and ensuring the provision of subsidised public transport by delivery partners;
- Supporting Local Planning Authorities by developing an overall spatial framework for the area;
- Providing programme and performance management to ensure successful delivery of Combined Authority projects; and
- Supporting the Mayor and Combined Authority's role in public service reform.

The Combined Authority Board established the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Independent Commission on Climate (CPICC) to examine the challenges facing the area from climate change. It was tasked to produce recommendations on how the area can mitigate the emissions of greenhouse gases and adapt to climate change impacts already happening. The Commission focused on transport, buildings, energy and peat topics for its initial recommendations report, with a further report due in late Summer 2021. In March 2021, the Combined Authority received CPICC's 'Initial Recommendations Report' and agreed to develop a response to the Commission's recommendations.

In response to the withdrawal of the latter tranches of the devolved £100m affordable housing fund by MHCLG, the Housing and Development Team at the Combined Authority is working with officers within the Ministry to agree a new pipeline of projects which will attract further replacement funding from Government in order to deliver on the target of 2,500 additional houses started on site by March [2022]. This pipeline is being developed in partnership with our constituent authorities to identify schemes to come forward for support from the Affordable Housing Programme. The Team is also building relationships with landowners, developers

and housing providers to seek opportunities to influence, enable and accelerate delivery of new affordable housing across the Combined Authority area.

The Housing Strategy recognises that there is a need to deliver genuinely affordable housing across the Combined Authority Area. It further recognises that there is a gap in the market that provides for those who do not qualify for traditional affordable housing and for whom open market housing is out of reach.

The Combined Authority vision for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough is to have the most advanced community-led housing sector in the UK, where local people in confident, and resilient communities have access to the skills and expertise to create attractive local homes that they can genuinely afford.

At the local elections in May 2021 the people of Cambridgeshire and Peterborough elected a new Mayor, along with 2 other changes to the Membership of the Combined Authority Board. In addition, a new Chief Executive Officer was appointed by the Board to start in the Autumn. While the full scope of the effect of these changes to the leadership of the Combined Authority will not be known for some time, this is the start of a new era for the Combined Authority where strategies and policies will be viewed in the light of the new Mayor's commitment to the 3 Cs: Compassion, Cooperation and Community.

## **Basis of Preparation and Presentation**

This Statement of Accounts has been prepared in accordance with statutory requirements, detailed in the Local Government Act 2003, the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015 and The Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2020/21 (the Code).

The Statement of Accounts brings together the major financial statements for the Combined Authority for the financial year 2020/21. The financial statements, along with the notes that accompany them, aim to give a full and clear picture of the financial position of Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority. The key contents of the various sections are as follows:

- Statement of Responsibilities sets out the responsibilities of the Combined Authority and the Chief Finance Officer in respect of the Statement of Accounts.
- Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement shows the accounting cost in the year of providing services in accordance with generally accepted accounting practices.
- Movement in Reserves Statement this statement shows the movement in the year on the reserves held by the Combined Authority.
- Balance Sheet shows the value of the assets and liabilities recognised by the Combined Authority as at 31 March 2021.

- Cash Flow Statement summarises the inflows and outflows of cash, and cash equivalents, arising from transactions with third parties.
- Notes to the Financial Accounts the various statements are supported by technical notes and by the Statement of Accounting Policies.
- Annual Governance Statement sets out how the Combined Authority's governance arrangements comply with the principles of the Local Code of Governance.

Jon Alsop Chief Finance Officer (S73)



#### INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF CAMBRIDGESHIRE AND PETERBOROUGH COMBINED AUTHORITY

#### Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority for the year ended 31 March 2021 under the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014. The financial statements comprise the Authority and Group Movement in Reserves Statement, Authority and Group Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement, Authority and Group Balance Sheet, Authority and Group Cash Flow Statement, and the related notes 1 to 33.

The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2020/21.

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the financial position of Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority and Group as at 31 March 2021 and of its expenditure and income for the year then ended; and
- have been prepared properly in accordance with the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2020/21.

#### Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report below. We are independent of the Authority and Group in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard and the Comptroller and Auditor General's (C&AG) AGN01, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

#### Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the Chief Finance Officer and Section 73 Officer's use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the Authority's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of 12 months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the Chief Finance Officer and Section 73 Officer with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report. However, because not all future events or conditions can be predicted, this statement is not a guarantee as to the authority's ability to continue as a going concern.

#### Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the 'Statement of Accounts 2020/21', other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The Chief Finance Officer and Section 73 Officer is responsible for the other information contained within the 'Statement of Accounts 2020/21'.

Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in this report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of the other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

#### Matters on which we report by exception

We report to you if:

- in our opinion the annual governance statement is misleading or inconsistent with other information forthcoming from the audit or our knowledge of the Authority;
- we issue a report in the public interest under section 24 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014;
- we make written recommendations to the audited body under Section 24 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014;
- we make an application to the court for a declaration that an item of account is contrary to law under Section 28 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014;
- we issue an advisory notice under Section 29 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014;
- we make an application for judicial review under Section 31 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014; and
- we are not satisfied that the Authority has made proper arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources for the year ended 31 March 2021.

We have nothing to report in these respects.

#### Responsibility of the Chief Finance Officer and Section 73 Officer

As explained more fully in the 'Statement of Responsibilities for the Statement of Accounts', set out on page 18, the Chief Finance Officer and Section 73 Officer is responsible for the preparation of the 'Statement of Accounts 2020/21', which includes the financial statements, in accordance with proper practices as set out in the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2020/21, and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view and for such internal control as the directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the Chief Finance Officer and Section 73 Officer is responsible for assessing the Authority's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Authority either intends to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

The Authority is responsible for putting in place proper arrangements to secure economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources, to ensure proper stewardship and governance, and to review regularly the adequacy and effectiveness of these arrangements.

#### Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists.

Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

#### Explanation as to what extent the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect irregularities, including fraud. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement due to fraud is higher than the risk of not detecting one resulting from error, as fraud may involve deliberate concealment by, for example, forgery or intentional misrepresentations, or through collusion. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below. However, the primary responsibility for the prevention and detection of fraud rests with both those charged with governance of the entity and management.

We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory frameworks that are applicable to the Authority and determined that the most significant are:

- The Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority Order 2017;
- Local Government Act 1972:
- Local Government Act 2003:
- The Local Authorities (Capital Finance and Accounting) (England) Regulations 2003 as amended in 2018 and 2020;
- The Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014; and
- The Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015.

In addition, the Authority has to comply with laws and regulations in the areas of anti-bribery and corruption, data protection, employment legislation, tax legislation, general power of competence, procurement and health and safety.

We understood how Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority is complying with those frameworks by understanding the incentive, opportunities and motives for non-compliance, including inquiring of management, the Head of Internal Audit, the Monitoring Officer, the Audit and Governance Committee as those charged with governance, and obtaining and reading documentation relating to the procedures in place to identify, evaluate and comply with laws and regulations, and whether they are aware of instances of non-compliance. We corroborated this through our reading of the Authority's committee minutes, Authority policies and procedures and other information. Based on this understanding we designed our audit procedures to identify non-compliance with such laws and regulations.

Our procedures had a focus on compliance with the accounting framework through obtaining sufficient audit evidence in line with the level of risk identified and with relevant legislation.

We assessed the susceptibility of the Authority's financial statements to material misstatement, including how fraud might occur by understanding the potential incentives and pressures for management to manipulate the financial statements, and performed procedures to understand the areas in which this would most likely arise. Based on our risk assessment procedures, we identified inappropriate capitalisation of revenue expenditure and management override of controls to be our fraud risks.

To address our fraud risk of inappropriate capitalisation of revenue expenditure we tested a sample of capital expenditure, including Revenue Expenditure Funded from Capital Under Statute (REFCUS), to ensure the capitalisation criteria were properly met and the expenditure was appropriate.

To address our fraud risk of management override of controls, we tested specific journal entries identified by applying risk criteria to the entire population of journals. For each journal selected, we tested the appropriateness of the journal and that it was accounted for appropriately. We assessed accounting estimates for evidence of management bias and evaluated the business rationale for significant unusual transactions.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at <a href="https://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities">https://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities</a>. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

#### Scope of the review of arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in the use of resources

We have undertaken our review in accordance with the Code of Audit Practice, having regard to the guidance on the specified reporting criteria issued by the Comptroller and Auditor General (C&AG) in April 2021, as to whether Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority had proper arrangements for financial sustainability, governance and improving economy, efficiency and effectiveness.

The C&AG determined these criteria as those necessary for us to consider under the Code of Audit Practice in satisfying ourselves whether Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority put in place proper arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources for the year ended 31 March 2021.

We planned our work in accordance with the Code of Audit Practice. Based on our risk assessment, we undertook such work as we considered necessary to form a view on whether, in all significant respects, Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority had put in place proper arrangements to secure economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources.

We are required under Section 20(1)(c) of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 to satisfy ourselves that the Authority has made proper arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources.

We are not required to consider, nor have we considered, whether all aspects of the Authority's arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources are operating effectively.

#### Delay in certification of completion of the audit

We cannot formally conclude the audit and issue an audit certificate until the National Audit Office communicate their instructions on the assurance requirements over the Whole of Government Accounts consolidation pack. We are satisfied that this work does not have a material effect on the financial statements or on our value for money arrangements.

#### Use of our report

This report is made solely to the members of Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority, as a body, in accordance with Part 5 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 and for no other purpose, as set out in paragraph 43 of the Statement of Responsibilities of Auditors and Audited Bodies published by Public Sector Audit Appointments Limited. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority and the Authority's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

MARK HODGSON ERNST & YOUNG LLP

..... Date: 17 December 2021

Mark Hodgson (Key Audit Partner) Ernst & Young LLP (Local Auditor) Cambridge

# Statement of Responsibilities for the Statement of Accounts

## The Combined Authority's Responsibilities

The Combined Authority is required to:

- make arrangements for the proper administration of its financial affairs and to secure that one of its officers has the responsibility for the administration of those affairs. In this Combined Authority, that officer is the Chief Finance Officer
- manage its affairs to secure economic, efficient and effective use of resources and safeguard its assets; and
- · approve the Statement of Accounts.

#### The Section 73 Officer's Responsibilities

The Section 73 Officer is responsible for the preparation of the Combined Authority's Statement of Accounts in accordance with proper practices as set out in the CIPFA / LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom (the Code).

In preparing this Statement of Accounts, the Chief Finance Officer has:

- selected suitable accounting policies and then applied them consistently;
- · made judgements and estimates that were reasonable and prudent;
- complied with the local authority Code.

The Section 73 Officer has also:

- · kept proper accounting records which were up to date
- taken reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Jonathan Assop

#### Section 73 Officer's Certificate

I certify that the accounts set out on pages 3 to 71 present a true and fair view of the financial position of the Combined Authority at 31 March 2021 and its income and expenditure for the year ended 31 March 2021.

Jon Alsop

Chief Finance Officer and

Section 73 Officer:

Date: 17/12/2021

## **Approval of the Statement of Accounts**

I confirm that these accounts were approved by the Audit and Governance Committee at the meeting held on the 17<sup>th</sup> December 2021

John Go

John Pye

Chair of the Audit Committee:

Date: 17/12/2021

# Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement (Group and Single)

The Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement shows the accounting cost in the year of providing services in accordance with generally accepted accounting practices, rather than the amount to be funded from taxation. The Combined Authority has the ability to levy a council tax precept, but this power has not been utilised in 2020-21.

CPCA 19/20 restated		ted				Group 20/21		CPCA 20/21			
Gross Exp	Gross Inc	Net exp		Note	Gross Exp	Gross Inc	Net exp	Gross Exp	Gross Inc	Net exp	
£000	£000	£000			£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	
4,125	0	4,125	Combined Authority Staffing Costs		4,134	0	4,134	4,134	0	4,134	
333	0	333	Externally Commissioned Support Services		319	(2)	317	319	(2)	317	
806	0	805	Corporate Overheads		631	0	631	631	0	631	
17	0	17	Governance Costs		49	0	49	49	0	49	
370	0	370	Mayor's Office		458	0	458	458	0	458	
77	(328)	(251)	Other Corporate Budgets		254	(38)	216	254	(38)	216	
13,415	(12,369)	1,046	Business and Skills		46,618	(44,071)	2,547	47,454	(47,042)	412	
39,377	(35,656)	3,721	Delivery and Strategy		75,121	(63,451)	11,670	74,883	(64,753)	10,130	
12,561	(524)	12,037	Housing		23,502	(453)	23,049	23,502	(453)	23,049	
71,080	(48,877)	22,203	Net Cost of Services		151,086	(108,015)	43,071	151,684	(112,288)	39,396	
0	0	0	Other Operating Income & Expenditure	8	455	(361)	94	455	(361)	94	
37	(1,646)	(1,609)	Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure	9	908	(809)	99	4,429	(809)	3,620	
0	(31,894)	(31,894)	Taxation and Non Specific Grant Income	10	0	(26,187)	(26,187)	0	(26,187)	(26,187)	
71,117	(82,417)	(11,300)	(Surplus) / Deficit on Provision of Services		152,447	(135,372)	17,077	156,568	(139,645)	16,923	
		76	Loss from investments in equity instruments designated at FVOCI				57			57	
		1,028	Actuarial (Gains) / Losses on Pension Assets / Liabilities	7			1,542			1,542	
		1,104	Other Comprehensive Income & Expenditure				1,599			1,599	
		(10,196)	Total Comprehensive Income & Expenditure				18,676			18,522	

<sup>\*</sup> restated to reflect 2020/21 management reporting headings

# Movement in Reserves Statement (Group and Single)

The Movement in Reserves Statement shows the movement from the start of the year to the end of the year on reserves held by the Combined Authority, analysed into 'usable reserves' (i.e. those that can be applied to fund expenditure) and other 'unusable reserves'. The Statement shows how the movements in year of the Combined Authority's reserves are broken down between gains and losses incurred in accordance with generally accepted accounting practices and the statutory adjustments required to return to the amounts chargeable for the year. The Net Increase/Decrease

line shows the statutory General Fund Balance movements in the year following those adjustments.

Combined Authority Single Movement in Reserves Statement	Note	General Fund Balance	Earmarked General Fund Reserves	Capital Grants Unapplied Account	Usable Capital Receipts Reserve	Total Usable Reserves	Unusable Reserves	Total Combined Authority Reserves
		£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Balance at 1 April 2019		(11,185)	(2,547)	(130,979)	(11,136)	(155,847)	(4,670)	(160,517)
Total Comprehensive Income & Expenditure		(11,300)	0	0	0	(11,300)	1,104	(10,196)
Adjustments between accounting basis & funding basis under regulations	14	7,995	0	26,087	128	34,210	(34,210)	0
Net Increase before Transfers to Earmarked Reserves		(3,305)	0	26,087	128	22,910	(33,106)	(10,196)
Transfers to / (from) Reserves		554	(554)	0	0	0	0	0
Increase / (Decrease) in 2019/20		(2,751)	(554)	26,087	128	22,910	(33,106)	(10,196)
Balance at 31 March 2020 Carried Forward		(13,936)	(3,101)	(104,892)	(11,008)	(132,937)	(37,776)	(170,713)
Balance at 1 April 2020		(13,936)	(3,101)	(104,892)	(11,008)	(132,937)	(37,776)	(170,713)
Total Comprehensive Income & Expenditure		16,923	0	0	0	16,599	1,599	18,522
Adjustments between accounting basis & funding basis under regulations	14	(14,136)	0	45,967	1,787	33,618	(33,618)	0
Net Increase before Transfers to Earmarked Reserves		2,787	0	45,967	1,787	50,541	(32,019)	18,522
Transfers to / (from) Reserves		3,347	(3,347)	0	0	0	0	0
Increase / (Decrease) in 2020/21		6,134	(3,347)	45,967	1,787	50,541	(32,019)	18,522
Balance at 31 March 2021 Carried Forward		(7,802)	(6,448)	(58,925)	(9,221)	(82,396)	(69,795)	(152,191)

Combined Authority Group Movement in Reserves Statement	Note	Combined Authority Usable Reserves	Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Business Growth Company Limited Usable Reserves	One Cam Limited Usable Reserves	Peterborough R&D Property Company Limited Usable Reserves	Peterborough HE Property Company Limited Usable Reserves	Total Usable Reserves	Combined Authority Unusable Reserves <sup>1</sup>	Total Group Reserves
		£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Balance at 1 April 2020		(132,937)	0	0	0	0	(132,937)	(37,776)	(170,713)
Total Comprehensive Income & Expenditure		16,923	1,981	1,540	154	292	20,890	1,599	22,489
Adjustments between group accounts and authority accounts <sup>2</sup>		(385)	(1,973)	(1,302)	(154)	0	(3,813)	0	(3,813)
Net Increase/decrease before transfers		16,538	9	238	0	292	17,077	1,599	18,676
Adjustments between accounting basis & funding basis under regulations	14	37,431	0	0	0	0	37,431	(37,431)	0
Increase / (Decrease) in 2020/21		53,969	9	238	0	292	54,508	(35,832)	18,676
Balance at 31 March 2021 Carried Forward		(78,968)	9	238	0	292	(78,429)	(73,608)	(152,037)

As group accounts were not produced for 19/20 there is no comparator information provided, the figures would be identical to those in single entity accounts, above.

- None of the companies had unusable reserves during the period.
   This is the elimination of intragroup transactions, see note 11 for further details. For CPCA this adjustment is offset by the removal of the loss in fair value of CPCAs investment in the companies.

# Balance Sheet (Group and Single)

СРСА	Balance Sheet		Group	СРСА
31 Mar 20		Notes	31 Mar 21	31 Mar 21
£000			£000	£000
544	Property, Plant & Equipment	22	782	80
133	Long Term Investments	25,26	37,178	41,059
19,677	Long Term Debtors	25,26,28	22,469	22,469
20,354	Long Term Assets		60,429	63,608
80,699	Short Term Investments	25,26	138,100	138,100
26,434	Short Term Debtors	25,26,28	34,738	39,011
80,565	Cash and Cash Equivalents	25,26,33	86,696	83,697
187,698	Current Assets		259,534	260,808
(21,407)	Short Term Creditors	25,26,29	(55,973)	(60,272)
0	Short Term Provisions	30	(226)	(226)
(21,407)	Current Liabilities		(56,199)	(60,498)
(1,554)	Other Long Term Liabilities	7	(3,644)	(3,644)
(14,378)	Capital Grants Receipts in Advance	31	(108,083)	(108,083)
(15,932)	Long Term Liabilities		(111,727)	(111,727)
170,713	Net Assets		152,037	152,191
(132,937)	Usable Reserves	14	(78,429)	(82,396)
(37,776)	Unusable Reserves	14	(73,608)	(69,795)
(170,713)	Total Reserves		(152,037)	(152,191)

The Balance Sheet shows the value as at the Balance Sheet date of the assets and liabilities recognised by the Combined Authority. The net assets of the Combined Authority (assets less liabilities) are matched by the reserves held by the Combined Authority. Reserves are reported in two categories. The first category of reserves are usable reserves, i.e. those reserves that the Combined Authority may use to provide services, subject to the need to maintain a prudent level of reserves and any statutory limitations on their use (for example the Capital Receipts Reserve that may only be used to fund capital expenditure or repay debt). The second category of reserves is that which the Combined Authority is not able to use to provide services. This category of reserves includes reserves that hold unrealised gains and losses and reserves that hold timing differences shown in the Movement in Reserves Statement line 'Adjustments between accounting basis and funding basis under regulations'.

Jon Alsop Chief Finance Officer and Section 73

Date: 17/12/2021

Janathan Assop

## **Cash Flow Statement**

The Cash Flow Statement shows the changes in cash and cash equivalents of the Combined Authority during the reporting period. The statement shows how the Combined Authority generates and uses cash and cash equivalents by classifying cash flows as operating, investing and financing activities. The amount of net cash flows arising from operating activities is a key indicator of the extent to which the operations of the Combined Authority are funded by way of taxation and grant income or from the recipients of services provided by the Combined Authority. Investing activities represent the extent to which cash outflows have been made for resources which are intended to contribute to the Combined Authority's future

service delivery.

CPCA	Cash Flow Statement		Group	СРСА
2019/20		Notes	2020/21	2020/21
£000			£000	£000
(11,300)	Net (Surplus) / Deficit on the Provision of Services		17,077	16,923
(17,880)	Adjust net (Surplus)/Deficit on the Provision of the Services for non cash movements*		(104,081)	(103,927)
(29,180)	Net Cash Flows from Operating activities		(87,004)	(87,004)
58,373	Investing activities	32	80,873	83,872
0	Financing activities		0	0
29,193	Net (Increase)/Decrease in Cash & cash Equivalent		(6,131)	(3,132)
109,758	Cash & Cash Equivalent at the beginning of the Reporting Period		80,565	80,565
(29,193)	Increase / (Decrease) in Cash and Cash Equivalents		6,131	3,132
80,565	Cash & Cash Equivalents at the end of the Reporting Period	33	86,696	83,697

<sup>\*</sup> The adjustment of net (surplus) deficit on the provision of Services for non cash movements contains £109,729k for the movement in creditors which largely relates to Capital Grants Received in Advance, see note 31 for further details .

## Notes to the Accounts

## 1 Accounting Policies

## **Basis of Identification of Group Boundary and Group Accounts Preparation.**

Where the Combined Authority has the authority has interests in subsidiaries, associates and/or joint ventures, subject to consideration of materiality, group accounts must be prepared. The Combined Authority has considered its group relationship as follows:

Company	Interest (voting rights if different)	Category	In group accounts	Turnover 19/20	Profit / Loss 19/20	Net Assets 19/20	Turnover 20/21	Profit / (Loss) 20/21	Net Assets 20/21
Peterborough HE Property Company Limited	93% (50%)	Associate	Yes - equity	0	0	0	0	(164)	8,067
Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Business Growth Company Limited	100%	Subsidiary	Yes – line by line	0	0	0	143	(1,981)	3,426
One Cam Limited	100%	Subsidiary	Yes – line by line	0	0	0	0	(1,540)	455
Peterborough R&D Property Company Limited	100%	Subsidiary	Yes – line by line	0	0	0	0	(154)	(154)
Angle Holdings Limited	100%	Subsidiary	Not material	0	(2)	(2)	0	(12)	(14)
Smart Manufacturing	100% (50%)	Joint Venture	Not material	0	0	0	0	(45)	670
Ascendal	100% (50%)	Joint Venture	Not material	0	0	0	0	(313)	652
MedTech Accelerator Ltd	20%	Associate	Not material	0	(339)	568	0	(191)	377*

<sup>\*</sup>MedTech Accelerator Ltd accounts are prepared to 30 June, 20/21 figures are year to 31 March 21.

**Peterborough HE Property Company Limited** was set up in partnership with Peterborough City Council and Anglia Ruskin University to build and run the site for Peterborough University.

**Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Business Growth Company Limited** is a wholly owned subsidiary set up to deliver key services in the region covering Inward Investment, Skills Brokerage and provide support and resources to SMEs.

One Cam Limited is a wholly owned subsidiary set up to develop the Cambridgeshire Autonomous Metro.

**Peterborough R&D Property Company Limited** has been set up in partnership with Photocentric Limited to build a commercial Research and Development facility linked to the new Peterborough University. As at 31 March 2021 the shareholders agreement hadn't been finalised and no equity investment had been made.

**Angle Holdings Limited** and its subsidiary Angle Developments Limited were set up to develop housing projects in accordance with the Combined Authority's Housing Strategy. To date no projects have been progressed through the companies. The Combined Authority Board has agreed to provide loan finance to the companies to cover running costs until such time as profitable projects are developed.

**Smart Manufacturing** is a joint venture with Opportunity Peterborough to establish a membership organisation supporting businesses to adapt to new technologies, business models by facilitating networking, and providing benchmarking, training and learning programmes to its members.

**Ascendal Accelerator Ltd** is a joint venture with Ascendal Innovation Ltd to support the development of SMEs and new technology in the public transport sector.

**MedTech Accelerator Ltd.** is a joint venture with Health Enterprise East, NHS Innovations East and New Anglia LEP which provides early stage investment funding and support to organisations which have achieved proof of concept with innovations in the healthcare sector to enable these organisations to take the next step towards commercialisation.

Through the Illumina Accelerator programme the Combined Authority holds six future equity agreements which will, upon maturity, become minor shareholdings in start-up companies. As these investments will not result in the Combined Authority holding a significant proportion of shares, nor having any form of control beyond its minor shareholding, these will be immaterial to the Authority's accounts.

## **General Principles**

The Statement of Accounts summarises the Combined Authority's transactions for the 2020/21 financial year and its position at the year-end 31 March 2021. The Combined Authority is required to prepare an annual Statement of Accounts by the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015.

The Statement of Accounts must be prepared in accordance with proper accounting practices. These practices primarily comprise the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2020/21, supported by International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS).

The accounting convention adopted in the Statement of Accounts is principally historical cost, modified by the revaluation of certain categories of non-current assets and financial instruments.

The same accounting policies are applied to the Combined Authority and Group accounts, with the exception of statutory adjustments between the accounting and funding basis (see note 14) which only apply to the Combined Authority accounts.

#### 1.1 Accruals of Income and Expenditure

Activity is accounted for in the year that it takes place, not when cash is paid or received. In particular;

- Revenue from contracts with service recipients, whether for services or the provision of goods, is recognised when (or as) the goods or services are transferred to the service recipient in accordance with the performance obligations in the contract;
- Supplies are recorded as expenditure when they are consumed where there is a gap between the date supplies are received and their consumption, they are carried as inventories on the Balance Sheet;
- Expenses in relation to services received (including services provided by employees) are recorded as expenditure when the services are received rather than when payments are made;
- Interest receivable on investments and payable on borrowings is accounted for respectively as income and expenditure on the basis of the effective interest rate for the relevant financial instrument rather than the cash flows fixed or determined by the contract;
- Where revenue and expenditure have been recognised but cash has not been received or paid, a debtor or creditor for the relevant amount is recorded in the Balance Sheet. Where debts may not be settled, the balance of debtors is written down and a charge made to revenue for the income that might not be collected.

## 1.2 Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash is represented by cash in hand and deposits with financial institutions repayable without penalty on notice of not more than 24 hours. Cash equivalents are highly liquid investments that mature in three months or less from the reporting date and that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash with insignificant risk of change in value.

In the Cash Flow Statement, cash and cash equivalents are shown net of bank overdrafts that are repayable on demand and form an integral part of the Combined Authority's cash management.

## 1.3 Charges to Revenue for Non-current Assets

Services and support services are debited with the following amounts to record the cost of holding non-current assets during the year:

depreciation attributable to the assets used by the relevant service

revaluation and impairment losses on assets used by the service where there are no accumulated gains in the Revaluation Reserve against which the losses can be written off

amortisation of intangible assets attributable to the service.

Depreciation, revaluation and impairment losses and amortisation are not charges to the Combined Authority's General Fund. However, it is required to make an annual contribution from revenue towards the reduction in its overall borrowing requirement equal to an amount calculated on a prudent basis determined by the Combined Authority in accordance with statutory guidance. Depreciation, revaluation and impairment losses and amortisation are therefore replaced by Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) by way of an adjusting transaction with the Capital Adjustment Account in the Movement in Reserves Statement for the difference between the two.

## 1.4 Employee Benefits

#### 1.4.1 Benefits Payable During Employment

Short-term employee benefits are those due to be settled wholly within 12 months of the year-end. They include such benefits as wages and salaries, paid annual leave and paid sick leave. An accrual is made for the cost of holiday entitlements earned by employees but not taken before the year-end that employees can carry forward into the next financial year. The accrual is made at the wage and salary rates applicable in the following accounting year, being the period in which the employee takes the benefit. The accrual is charged to surplus or deficit on the provision of services, but then reversed out through the Movement in Reserves Statement to the accumulated absences account so that holiday entitlements are charged to revenue in the financial year in which the holiday absence occurs.

#### 1.4.2 Termination Benefits

Termination benefits are amounts payable as a result of a decision by the authority to terminate an officer's employment before the normal retirement date or an officer's decision to accept voluntary redundancy in exchange for those benefits and are charged on an accruals basis to the appropriate service segment or, where applicable, to a corporate service segment at the earlier of when the authority can no longer withdraw the offer of those benefits or when the authority recognises costs for a restructuring. Where termination benefits involve the enhancement of pensions, statutory provisions require the General Fund Balance to be charged with the amount payable by the authority to the pension fund or pensioner in the year, not the amount calculated according to the relevant accounting standards. In the Movement in Reserves Statement, appropriations are required to and from the Pensions Reserve to remove the notional debits and credits for pension enhancement termination benefits and replace them with debits for the cash paid to the pension fund and pensioners and any such amounts payable but unpaid at the year-end.

## 1.4.2 Post-employment Benefits

Employees of the authority can become members of the Local Government Pensions Scheme, administered by Cambridgeshire County Council in partnership with Northamptonshire County Council (until 31 March 2021)

The scheme provides defined benefits to members (retirement lump sums and pensions), earned as employees worked for the authority.

The Local Government Pension Scheme is accounted for as a defined benefits scheme:

- The liabilities of the pension fund attributable to the Authority are included in the balance sheet on an actuarial basis using the projected unit method i.e. an assessment of the future payments that will be made in relation to retirement benefits earned to date by employees, based on assumptions about mortality rates, employee turnover rates, etc, and projected earnings for current employees.
- Liabilities are discounted to their value at current prices, using a discount rate of based on the indicative rate of return on high quality corporate bonds
- The assets of the pension fund attributable to the Authority are included in the balance sheet at their fair value:
  - o quoted securities current bid price

- unquoted securities professional estimate
- o unitised securities current bid price
- o property market value.

The change in the net pensions liability is analysed into the following components:

## Service cost comprising:

- o current service cost the increase in liabilities as a result of years of service earned this year allocated in the comprehensive income and expenditure statement to the Combined Authority Staffing Costs line
- o past service cost the increase in liabilities as a result of a scheme amendment or curtailment whose effect relates to years of service earned in earlier years debited in the comprehensive income and expenditure statement to the Combined Authority Staffing Costs line
- o net interest on the net defined benefit liability (asset), i.e. net interest expense for the Authority the change during the period in the net defined benefit liability (asset) that arises from the passage of time charged to the financing and investment income and expenditure line of the comprehensive income and expenditure statement this is calculated by applying the discount rate used to measure the defined benefit obligation at the beginning of the period to the net defined benefit liability (asset) at the beginning of the period taking into account any changes in the net defined benefit liability (asset) during the period as a result of contribution and benefit payments.

#### Remeasurements comprising:

- o the return on plan assets excluding amounts included in net interest on the net defined benefit liability (asset) charged to the pensions reserve as other comprehensive income and expenditure
- o actuarial gains and losses changes in the net pensions liability that arise because events have not coincided with assumptions made at the last actuarial valuation or because the actuaries have updated their assumptions charged to the pensions reserve as other comprehensive income and expenditure.
- o contributions paid to the pension fund cash paid as employer's contributions to the pension fund in settlement of liabilities; not accounted for as an expense.

In relation to retirement benefits, statutory provisions require the general fund balance to be charged with the amount payable by the Authority to the pension fund or directly to pensioners in the year, not the amount calculated according to the relevant accounting standards. In the movement in reserves statement, this means that there are transfers to and from the pensions reserve to remove the notional debits and credits for retirement benefits and replace them with debits for the cash paid to the pension fund and pensioners and any such amounts payable but unpaid at the year-end. The negative balance that arises on the pensions reserve thereby measures the beneficial impact to the general fund of being required to account for retirement benefits on the basis of cash flows rather than as benefits earned by employees.

#### Discretionary benefits

The Authority also has restricted powers to make discretionary awards of retirement benefits in the event of early retirements. Any liabilities estimated to arise as a result of an award to any member of staff are accrued in the year of the decision to make the award and accounted for using the same policies as are applied to the Local Government Pension Scheme.

## 1.5 Events after the Reporting Period

These are events that occur between the end of the accounting period and the date when the Statement of Accounts is authorised for issue. Two types of events can be identified:

- If events provide new evidence of conditions that existed at the balance sheet date the Statement of Accounts is adjusted;
- Other events are only indicative of conditions that arose after the balance sheet date. The Statement of Accounts is not adjusted, but where such a category of events would have a material effect, disclosure is made in the notes. The note sets out of the nature of the events and their estimated financial effect.

Events taking place after the date of authorisation for issue are not reflected in the Statement of Accounts.

#### 1.6 Financial Instruments

#### 1.6.1 Financial Liabilities

Financial liabilities are recognised on the Balance Sheet when the Combined Authority is contractually committed to a financial instrument. They are initially measured at fair value. They are carried at their amortised cost.

The amount charged to revenue is based on the effective interest rate. The effective interest rate discounts estimated future cash payments over the life of the instrument to the amount at which it was originally recognised.

The carrying value for most loans is outstanding principal repayable plus accrued interest. Interest charged to the CIES is the amount payable under the agreement.

Annual charges for these loans are made to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line in the CIES. The charge is the carrying amount of the liability multiplied by the effective rate of interest.

For these loans, the difference between the annual charge and the cash paid is reversed out in the MIRS.

#### 1.6.2 Financial Assets

Financial assets are classified based on a classification and measurement approach that reflects the business model for holding the financial assets and their cashflow characteristics. There are three main classes of financial assets measured at:

- amortised cost
- fair value through profit or loss (FVPL), and

• fair value through other comprehensive income (FVOCI)

#### 1.6.2.1 Financial Asset Measured at Amortised Cost

Financial assets measured at amortised cost are recognised on the Balance Sheet when the Authority becomes a party to the contractual provisions of a financial instrument and are initially measured at fair value. They are subsequently measured at their amortised cost. Annual credits to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement (CIES) for interest receivable are based on the carrying amount of the asset multiplied by the effective rate of interest for the instrument. For most of the financial assets held by the Council, this means that the amount presented in the Balance Sheet is the outstanding principal receivable (plus accrued interest) and interest credited to the CIES is the amount receivable for the year in the loan agreement.

When soft loans (loans below market rate) are made, a loss is recorded in the CIES (debited to the appropriate service) for the present value of the interest that will be foregone over the life of the instrument, resulting in a lower amortised cost than the outstanding principal.

Interest is credited to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line in the CIES at a marginally higher effective rate of interest than the rate receivable from the borrower, with the difference serving to increase the amortised cost of the loan in the Balance Sheet. Statutory provisions require that the impact of soft loans on the General Fund Balance is the interest receivable for the financial year – the reconciliation of amounts debited and credited to the CIES to the net gain required against the General Fund Balance is managed by a transfer to or from the Financial Instruments Adjustment Account in the Movement in Reserves Statement.

Any gains and losses that arise on the derecognition of an asset are credited or debited to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line in the CIES.

## 1.6.2.2 Financial Asset Measured at Fair Value through Other Income and Expenditure (FVOCI)

Where the authority has eligible assets, it may elect to account for them at Fair Value through Other Income and Expenditure This means that any gains or losses in Fair Value are charged to Other Income and Expenditure and reversed out through the MIRS to the Financial Instrument Revaluation Reserve.

## 1.6.2.3 Financial Assets Measured at Fair Value through Profit or Loss (FVPL)

Financial assets that are measured at FVPL are recognised on the Balance Sheet when the Authority becomes a party to the contractual provisions of a financial instrument and are initially measured and carried at fair value. Fair value gains and losses are recognised as they arrive in the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services.

The fair value measurements of the financial assets are based on the following techniques:

- instruments with quoted market prices the market price
- other instruments with fixed and determinable payments discounted cash flow analysis.

The inputs to the measurement techniques are categorised in accordance with the following three levels:

- Level 1 inputs quoted prices (unadjusted) in active markets for identical assets that the Combined Authority can access at the measurement date.
- Level 2 inputs inputs other than quoted prices included within Level 1 that are observable for the asset, either directly or indirectly.
- Level 3 inputs unobservable inputs for the asset.

Any gains and losses that arise on the derecognition of the asset are credited or debited to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

## 1.6.3 Expected Credit Loss Model

The Combined Authority recognises expected credit losses on all of its financial assets held at amortised cost either on a 12-month or lifetime basis. The expected credit loss model also applies to lease receivables and contract assets. Only lifetime losses are recognised for trade receivables (debtors) held by the Combined Authority.

Impairment losses are calculated to reflect the expectation that the future cash flows might not take place because the borrower could default on their obligations. Credit risk plays a crucial part in assessing losses. Where risk has increased significantly since an instrument was initially recognised, losses are assessed on a lifetime basis. Where risk has not increased significantly or remains low, losses are assessed on the basis of 12-month expected losses.

#### 1.7 Government Grants and Contributions

Whether paid on account, by instalments or in arrears, government grants and third party contributions and donations are recognised as due to the Combined Authority when there is reasonable assurance that;

- the Combined Authority will comply with the conditions attached to the payments, and
- the grants or contributions will be received.

Amounts recognised as due to the Combined Authority are not credited to the CIES until conditions attached to the grant or contribution have been satisfied. Conditions are stipulations that specify that the future economic benefits or service potential embodied in the asset in the form of the grant or contribution are required to be consumed by the recipient as specified, or future economic benefits or service potential must be returned to the transferor.

Monies advanced as grants and contributions for which conditions have not been satisfied are carried in the Balance Sheet as creditors. When conditions are satisfied, the grant or contribution is credited to the relevant service line (attributable revenue grants and contributions) or Non-specific Grant Income and Expenditure (non-ringfenced revenue grants and all capital grants) in the CIES.

Where capital grants are credited to the CIES, they are reversed out of the General Fund Balance in the MIRS. Where the grant has yet to be used to finance capital expenditure, it is posted to the Capital Grants Unapplied reserve. Where it has been applied, it is posted to the Capital

Adjustment Account. Amounts in the Capital Grants Unapplied reserve are transferred to the Capital Adjustment Account once they have been applied to fund capital expenditure.

#### 1.8 Leases

Leases are classified as finance leases where the terms of the lease transfer substantially all the risks and rewards incidental to ownership of the property, plant or equipment from the lessor to the lessee. All other leases are classified as operating leases.

Where a lease covers both land and buildings, the land and buildings elements are considered separately for classification.

Arrangements that do not have the legal status of a lease but convey a right to use an asset in return for payment are accounted for under this policy where fulfilment of the arrangement is dependent on the use of specific assets.

## 1.8.1 The Authority as Lessee

#### 1.8.1.1 Operating Leases

Rentals paid under operating leases are charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement as an expense of the services benefitting from use of the leased property, plant or equipment. Charges are made on a straight-line basis over the life of the lease, even if this does not match the pattern of payments (e.g. there is a rent-free period at the commencement of the lease).

#### 1.9 Property, Plant and Equipment

Assets that have physical substance and are held for use in the production or supply of goods or services, for rental to others, or for administrative purposes and that are expected to be used during more than one financial year are classified as property, plant and equipment.

## 1.9.1 Recognition

Expenditure on the acquisition, creation or enhancement of property, plant and equipment is capitalised on an accruals basis, provided that it is probable that the future economic benefits or service potential associated with the item will flow to the authority and the cost of the item can be measured reliably. Expenditure that maintains but does not add to an asset's potential to deliver future economic benefits or service potential (i.e. repairs and maintenance) is charged as an expense when it is incurred.

#### 1.9.2 Measurement

Assets are initially measured at cost, comprising:

- the purchase price
- any costs attributable to bringing the asset to the location and condition necessary for it to be capable of operating in the manner intended by management

In 2020/21, in addition to Vehicle, plant, furniture & equipment, there have been some expenditure classified as Assets Under Construction in the group accounts. measured at the same basis as above incurred for the University of Peterborough project.

Assets included in the Balance Sheet are held at current value.

## 1.9.3 Impairment

Assets are assessed at each year-end as to whether there is any indication that an asset may be impaired. Where indications exist and any possible differences are estimated to be material, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated and, where this is less than the carrying amount of the asset, an impairment loss is recognised for the shortfall.

## 1.9.4 Depreciation

Depreciation is provided for on all property, plant and equipment assets by the systematic allocation of their depreciable amounts over their useful lives. An exception is made for assets without a determinable finite useful life (i.e. freehold land and certain community assets) and assets that are not yet available for use (ie assets under construction).

Deprecation is calculated on the following bases:

- Vehicle, plant, furniture and equipment Depreciation is calculated from the year of acquisition, on a straight line basis, over a period of five years.
- Assets Under construction Assets in the course of construction are not depreciated until they are brought into use.

The useful lives of assets are reviewed regularly. Where necessary, the life of an asset is revised and the carrying amount of the asset is then depreciated over the remaining useful life.

#### 1.9.5 Disposals

When an asset is disposed of or decommissioned, the carrying amount of the asset in the Balance Sheet (whether property, plant and equipment or assets held for sale) is written off to the other operating expenditure line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement as part of the gain or loss on disposal. Receipts from disposals (if any) are credited to the same line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement also as part of the gain or loss on disposal (ie netted off against the carrying value of the asset at the time of disposal). Any revaluation gains accumulated for the asset in the revaluation reserve are transferred to the capital adjustment account.

Amounts received for a disposal in excess of £10,000 are categorised as capital receipts. The receipts remain within the capital receipts reserve, and can then only be used for new capital investment or set aside to reduce the authority's underlying need to borrow (the capital financing requirement). Receipts are appropriated to the reserve from the General Fund balance in the Movement in Reserves Statement.

The written-off value of disposals is not a charge against council tax, as the cost of non-current assets is fully provided for under separate arrangements for capital financing. Amounts are appropriated to the capital adjustment account from the General Fund balance in the Movement in Reserves Statement.

## 1.10 Programme Management of Delegated Funds

Some funds are delegated to CPCA that HM Government require it to distribute and manage to achieve the desired outcomes. Government subsequently require officers of CPCA to monitor activity and report thereon regularly. Such funds require specific project management and this sets out the methodology for funds under management in 2020/21.

#### 1.10.1 Local Growth Fund

This programme was inherited from the former GCGP LEP. Funding is allocated by the Business Board based upon the 2014/15 funding agreement to deliver increased Gross Value Added (GVA) in the area. Programme management costs are allowed by the funding agency, the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) as determined by the Accountable Body. Previously 4% was agreed but this was reviewed and, since it became the CPCA's responsibility in 2018/19, reduced to 2% of the funds received in year.

The final tranche of funding was received in 2020-21; however, the responsibility for monitoring and evaluation of the funded projects continues and will be funded from the reserve built up via the programme management element of the funds.

#### 1.10.2 Housing Investment Fund

HM Government devolved funds to the CPCA to deliver affordable homes, and the CPCA has sought out opportunities and delivered utilising a combination of grants and loans. This funding was reviewed at the end of 2020-21 with Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) to establish future funding provision and programme objectives. Repaid capital from the issued housing loans are ringfenced to programme pipeline of opportunities, and discussions are ongoing with MHCLG to agree further funding to support and deliver the pipeline on a project by project basis. These discussions are based on the costs of running the programme continuing to be charged to these funds.

## 1.11 Provisions, Contingent Liabilities and Contingent Assets

#### **Provisions**

Provisions are made where an event has taken place that gives the Combined Authority a legal or constructive obligation that probably requires settlement by a transfer of economic benefits or service potential, and a reliable estimate can be made of the amount of the obligation. For instance, the Combined Authority may be involved in a court case that could eventually result in the making of a settlement or the payment of compensation.

Provisions are charged as an expense to the appropriate service line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement when the Combined Authority has a payment obligation and are measured at the best estimate at the Balance Sheet date of the expenditure required to settle the obligation, taking into account relevant risks and uncertainties.

When payments are eventually made, they are charged to the provision carried in the Balance Sheet. Estimated settlements are reviewed at the end of each financial year – where it becomes less than probable that a transfer of economic benefits will now be required (or a lower settlement than anticipated is made), the provision is reversed and credited back to the relevant service.

Where some or all of the payment required to settle a provision is expected to be recovered from another party (e.g. from an insurance claim), this is only recognised as income for the relevant service if it is virtually certain that reimbursement will be received if the Combined Authority settles the obligation.

## Contingent Liabilities

A contingent liability arises where an event has taken place that gives the Combined Authority a possible obligation whose existence will only be confirmed by the occurrence or otherwise of uncertain future events not wholly within the control of the authority. Contingent liabilities also arise in circumstances where a provision would otherwise be made but either it is not probable that an outflow of resources will be required or the amount of the obligation cannot be measured reliably.

Contingent liabilities are not recognised in the balance sheet but disclosed in a note to the accounts. There are no Contingent Liabilities disclosed in the 2020/21 accounts.

#### 1.12 Reserves

The Combined Authority sets aside specific amounts as reserves for future policy purposes or to cover contingencies. Reserves are created by transferring amounts out of the General Fund Balance.

When expenditure to be financed from a reserve is incurred, it is charged to the appropriate service in that year. It is included in the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services in the CIES.

The reserve is then transferred back into the General Fund Balance in the Movement in Reserves Statement.

Certain reserves are kept to manage the accounting processes for non-current assets, financial instruments, local taxation, retirement and employee benefits. These reserves are not usable resources for the Combined Authority and are explained within the relevant policies.

#### 1.13 Revenue Expenditure Funded from Capital under Statute (REFCUS)

Expenditure incurred during the year that may be capitalised under statutory provisions but that does not result in the creation of a non-current asset has been charged as expenditure to the relevant service in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement in the year. Where the authority has determined to meet the cost of this expenditure from existing capital resources or by borrowing, a transfer in the Movement in Reserves Statement from the General Fund Balance to the Capital Adjustment Account then reverses out the amounts charged so that there is no impact on the General Fund Balance.

The Combined Authority receives many capital funds from H.M. Government to achieve outcomes in the area. Such funds include Gainshare (Capital), Transforming Cities Fund, Housing Investment Fund and Local Growth Fund. While the CPCA delivers some functions and services directly, predominantly passenger transport functions, it is primarily a commissioning organisation and seeks to deliver the outcomes through third parties such as constituent authorities by giving capital grants to deliver these capital projects. Under the CIPFA prudential code such expenditure is treated as REFCUS.

#### 1.14 Value Added Tax (VAT)

VAT payable is included as an expense only to the extent that it is not recoverable from Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs. VAT receivable is excluded from income.

## 1.15 Going Concern

Despite the potential impact of COVID-19 on local authority financial sustainability, the Combined Authority is able to maintain a balanced and affordable budget and to continue to operate for the foreseeable future. The Combined Authority has undertaken cash flow modelling which, taking account of the cash balances of £28.8 million at 30 November 2021 and forecast cash balances of £46.6 million at 30 November 2022, demonstrates the Combined Authority does not have any liquidity concerns over the next 12 months from date of authorisation. It is therefore appropriate to prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis.

## 2 Accounting Standards that have been Issued but have Not Yet Been Adopted

- Definition of a Business: Amendments to IFRS 3 Business Combinations
- Interest Rate Benchmark Reform: Amendments to IFRS 9, IAS 39 and IFRS 7
- Interest Rate Benchmark Reform Phase 2: Amendments to IFRS 9, IAS 39, IFRS 7, IFRS 4 and IFRS 16.

The above changes in accounting requirements which have been introduced by the 2021/22 code are not anticipated to have a material impact on the authority's financial performance or financial position.

## 3 Critical Judgement in Applying Accounting Policies

In applying the accounting policies set out above, the Combined Authority has had to make certain judgements about complex transactions or those involving uncertainty about future events. The critical judgements made in the Statement of Accounts are:

The Combined Authority has received a number of capital grants. A judgement has been required for each one, and although some of the grants have been ring fenced for specific purposes, not all of these have conditions in place that satisfy the requirements of the Code to treat the unspent elements of the grants as Capital Grant Receipts in Advance. Unspent capital grant funding in relation to these grants has been accounted for in the CIES and transferred to the Capital Grants Unapplied Reserve.

### 4 External Audit Costs

The Combined Authority has incurred the following cost in relation to the audit of the Statement of Accounts provided by the Combined Authority's external auditors, Ernst & Young LLP (EY).

2019/20 restated*	External Audit Costs	2020/21
£000		£000
48	Fees payable with regard to external audit services carried out by the appointed auditor	45
(3)	PSAA audit refund	0
45	Total	45

<sup>\*</sup>estimate replaced with actual costs following completion of audit.

### 5 Mayor's and Members' Allowances

The Mayor is the only Member of the CPCA Board who receives an allowance from the Combined Authority in relation to their position on the Combined Authority Board. The Chair of the Business Board receives an allowance for that role, and the Leaders of the constituent authorities are remunerated by their own authorities.

	Allowances		Expenses		Total	
Role	2019/20	2020/21	2019/20	2020/21	2019/20	2020/21
Mayor	£75,000	£75,000	£4,471	£1,410	£79,471	£76,410
Chair of the Business Board	£18,204	£24,000	£2,585	£0	£20,789	£24,000
Chair of Audit and Governance Committee	£1,534	£1,534	£0	£0	£1,534	£1,534

#### 6 Officers' Remuneration

The Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015 require the disclosure of certain details relating to employees whose remuneration was £50,000 or more. Additional disclosures are required relating to the organisation's Senior Employees.

These requirements only apply to directly employed staff.

#### **Senior Employees**

Senior employees whose salary is £50,000 or more, but less than £150,000, are required to be listed individually by way of job title. Employees whose salary is £150,000 or more must also be identified by name. In this context, a senior employee is identified as follows:

- the designated head of paid service, a statutory chief officer or a non-statutory chief officer of a relevant body, as defined under the Local Government and Housing Act 1989;
- any person having responsibility for the management of the relevant body, to the extent that the person has power to direct or control the major activities of the body, in particular activities involving the expenditure of money, whether solely or collectively with others.

Total Remuneration including Employer Pension Contributions £000			oyer			Total Remuneration including Employer Pension Contributions £000				
	201	9/20		Post	Name(s) of post holders	2020/21				
Pay	Pension	3rd Party Payments <sup>4</sup>	Total	1 031	noiders	Pay	Pension	3rd Party Payments <sup>4</sup>	Total	
-	-	129	129	Co-Chief Executive <sup>1</sup>	John Hill	-	-	133	133	
82	13	-	95	Co-Chief Executive <sup>1,2</sup>		85	17	-	102	
82	13	-	95	Director of Corporate Resources <sup>2</sup>	Kim Sawyer	85	17	-	102	
2	-	-	2		Robert Parkin	87	16	-	103	
-	-	156	156	Monitoring Officer	Dermot Pearson	-	-	-	-	
-	-	35	35		Howard Norris	-	-	-	-	
77	12	-	89	Chief Finance Officer	Jon Alsop	100	18	-	118	
-	-	46	46	Chief Finance Officer	Noel O'Neill	-	-	-	-	
148	-	-	148	Director of Business and Skills	John T Hill	152	-	-	152	
135	22	-	157	Director of Delivery and Strategy	Paul Raynes	138	25	-	163	
135	22	-	157	Director of Housing	Roger Thompson	138	25	-	163	
-	-	65	65	Director of Transport <sup>3</sup>	N/A	-	-	-	-	
661	82	431	1,174	Total		785	117	133	1,035	

- 1. CPCA has two joint CEOs (Kim Sawyer and John Hill) who have been in post since 26th September 2018. Prior to this the CPCA had a single Chief Executive
- 2. Kim Sawyer covers both the role of Director of Corporate Resources and Co-Chief Executive thus the costs are split across both budgets
- 3. Director of Transport post was removed as a result of restructure in 19/20.

  Where these posts were covered by non-employees (consultants) these costs are shown here. The services of John Hill are provided under a shared services agreement with East Cambridgeshire District Council.

# Employee remuneration above £50,000

Including individuals shown in the senior officers table on the previous page, the number of Combined Authority staff with remuneration (comprising salary, fees, expenses, allowances and any exit package) above £50,000 is as follows:

Remuneration Banding	2019-20	2020-21
£50,000-£54,999	6	5
£55,000-£59,999	3	3
£60,000-£64,999	3	0
£65,000-£69,999	0	4
£70,000-£74,999	1	3
£75,000-£79,999	3	2
£80,000-£84,999	0	4
£85,000-£89,999	0	1
£90,000-£94,999	1	0
£100,000-£104,999	0	1
£110,000-£114,999	0	1
£135,000-£139,999	2	2
£150,000-£154,999	1	1
£165,000-£169,999	1	0
£170,000-£174,999	0	1
Total	21	28

## **Exit Packages**

The number of exit packages in terms of compulsory and other departures is set out in the table below, total amount paid per banding is excluded as it would allow individual packages to be identified and includes pension strain payments where applicable.

	Number of corred	ompulsory undancies	Number of othe with ex	r departures kit packages	Total number of exit packages	
	2019/20	2020/21	2019/20 restated	2020/21	2019/20 restated	2020/21
£0-£20,000	-	3	2	-	2	3
£200,000 - £250,000	1	-	-	-	1	-
Totals	1	3	2	0	3	3

The restatement of 2019-20 figures was due to an addition of one exit package that was the result of a decision made in 2019-20 but the final value of the package was not known until 2020-21

### **Pay Multiple**

The pay multiple is defined as the ratio between the highest paid taxable earnings for a given year (including base salary, variable pay, bonuses, allowances and the cash value of any benefits-in-kind) and the median earnings figure of the whole of the authority's workforce. For 2020-21 the Combined Authority's pay ratio was 3.58 (19/20 3.74).

#### 7 Defined Benefit Pension Scheme

Following the transfer of employment contracts held by Peterborough City Council on 1 May 2019, the Authority became an admitted body to the Local Government Pension Scheme, administered locally by Cambridgeshire County Council. The scheme assets and liabilities related to these staff transferred to the Authority on a fully funded basis. For reasons of comparability between funds the Code prescribes the use of specific rates for discounting the scheme liabilities, which are different from the locally determined ones used in the calculation of the funding position and contribution rates. Therefore, under the actuarial calculations used for the accounts the Authority's share of the scheme showed an opening net liability of £1,351k. This is not a real cost to the General Fund and has no impact on the funding calculation.

As part of the terms and conditions of employment of its officers, the authority makes contributions towards the cost of post-employment benefits. Although these benefits will not actually be payable until employees retire, the authority has a commitment to make the payments (for those benefits) and to disclose them at the time that employees earn their future entitlement.

The authority participates in the Local Government Pension Scheme, administered locally by Cambridgeshire County Council – this is a funded defined benefit scheme, meaning that the authority and employees pay contributions into a fund, calculated at a level intended to balance the pensions liabilities with investment assets.

The Cambridgeshire County Council pension scheme is operated under the regulatory framework for the Local Government Pension Scheme and the governance of the scheme is the responsibility of the Pensions Fund Committee of Cambridgeshire County Council. Policy is determined in accordance with the Pensions Fund Regulations. The Fund invests the contributions in accordance with the Investment Strategy Statement (<a href="https://pensions.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/app/uploads/2019/04/Investment-Strategy-Statement.pdf">https://pensions.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/app/uploads/2019/04/Investment-Strategy-Statement.pdf</a>) which manages risks with diversification of asset classes, geography and asset managers.

Other principal risks to the authority of the scheme are the demographic risks, statutory changes to the scheme, changes to inflation, bond yields and the performance of the equity investments held by the scheme. These are mitigated to a certain extent by the statutory requirements to charge to the general fund the amounts required by statute as described in the accounting policies note.

### Transactions relating to post-employment benefits

The cost of retirement benefits in the reported cost of services is recognised when they are earned by employees, rather than when the benefits are eventually paid as pensions.

However, the charge that is required to be made against the General Fund is based on the cash payable in the year, so the real cost of post-employment/retirement benefits is reversed out of the general fund via the movement in reserves statement.

The following transactions have been made in the comprehensive income and expenditure statement and the general fund balance via the movement in reserves statement during the year.

2019/20	Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement	2020/21
£000		£000
	Cost of Services:	
	Service cost comprising:	
975	Current Service Cost	1,175
105	Past Service Costs Including Curtailments	0
0	(Gain)/ Loss from Settlements	0
	Financing & Investment Income & Expenditure	
37	Net Interest Expense	41
1,117	Total Post Employment Benefit Charged to the (Surplus)/Deficit on the Provision of Services	1,216
	Other post-Employment Benefits Charged to the Comprehensive Income & Expenditure Statement	
	Remeasurement of the net Defined Benefit Liability Comprising:	
1,351	Recognition of net Defined Benefit Liability on transfer on IAS19 basis	0
289	Return on Plan Assets (excluding amounts included in net interest)	(700)
-	Actuarial (Gains)/Losses Arising on Changes in Demographic Assumptions	106
(588)	Actuarial (Gains)/Losses Arising on Changes in Financial Assumptions	2,186
	Difference between actual employers' contributions and estimate in Actuary's report	4
(24)	Other	(54)
2,145	Total Post Employment Benefit Charged to the Comprehensive Income & Expenditure Statement	2,758
	Movement in Reserves Statement	
(2,145)	Reversal of net charges made to the (Surplus)/Deficit on the Provision of Services for post-employment benefits in accordance with the Code	(2,758)
	Actual Amount charged against the General Fund Balance for pensions in the year:	
591	Employers' contributions payable to scheme	668
(1,554)	Retirement benefits payable to pensioners	(2,090)

# Pension assets and liabilities recognised in the balance sheet

The amount included in the balance sheet arising from the authority's obligation in respect of its defined benefit plans is as follows:

31-Mar-20	Pension Assets & Liabilities Recognised in the Balance Sheet	31-Mar-21
£000		£000
(4,404)	Present value of the defined benefit obligation	(8,251)
2,850	Fair Value of Plan Assets	4,607
(1,554)		(3,644)

# Reconciliation of the movements in the fair value of scheme (plan) assets

31-Mar-20	Reconciliation of the Movements in the Fair Value of the Scheme (plan) Assets	31-Mar-21
£000		£000
2,271	Opening Fair Value of Scheme Assets at transfer 1st May 2019	2,850
61	Interest Income	77
	Remeasurement Gain/(Loss)	
(289)	Return on Plan Assets, excluding amounts included in the net interest expense	700
591	Contributions from employer	668
	Difference between actual employers' contributions and estimate in Acturay's report	(4)
216	Contributions from employees into the scheme	318
-	Benefits Paid	(2)
2,850	Closing Fair Value of Scheme Assets	4,607

# Reconciliation of present value of the scheme liabilities (defined benefit obligation)

31-Mar-20	Reconciliation of Present Value of the Scheme Liabilities (defined benefit obligation)	31-Mar-21
£000		£000
3,622	Opening balance at transfer 1st May 2019	4,404
975	Current Service Cost	1,175
98	Interest Cost	118
216	Contributions from Scheme Participants	318
	Remeasurement (Gains) & Losses	
-	Actuarial (Gains)/Losses Arising from Changes in Demographic Assumptions	106
(588)	Actuarial (Gains)/Losses Arising from Changes in Financial Assumptions	2,186
(24)	Other	(54)
105	Past Service Cost	-
-	Benefits Paid	(2)
4,404	Closing balance at 31 March	8,251

# Local Government Pension Scheme assets comprised

		Period	Ended 31st N	larch 2020		Period E	inded 31st N	larch 2021
	Quoted Prices in Active Markets	Quoted Prices not in Active Markets	Total	Percent of Total Assets	Quoted Prices in Active Markets	Quoted Prices not in Active Markets	Total	Percent of Total Assets
	£000	£000	£000		£000	£000	£000	
Debt Securities								
UK Government	-	147.5	147.5	5%	-	205.7	205.7	4%
Private Equity								
All	-	233.8	233.8	8%	-	347.1	347.1	8%
Real Estate								
UK Property	-	213.3	213.3	7%	-	283.4	283.4	6%
Overseas Property						0.1	0.1	0%
Investment Funds & Unit Trusts								
Equities	-	1,727.4	1,727.4	61%	-	2,767.0	2,767.0	60%
Bonds	-	193.3	193.3	7%	-	534.6	534.6	12%
Infrastructure	-	257.0	257.0	9%	-	417.0	417.0	9%
Total Investment Funds & Unit Trusts	-	2,177.7	2,177.7	77%	-	3,718.6	3,718.6	81%
Derivatives								
Other	-	34.7	34.7	1%	-	(19.0)	(19.0)	0%
Cash & Cash Equivalents								
All	43.0	-	43.0	2%	71.1	-	71.1	2%
Total Assets	43.0	2,807.0	2,850.0	100%	71.1	4,535.8	4,606.9	101%

### Basis for estimating assets and liabilities

Liabilities have been assessed on an actuarial basis using the projected unit credit method, an estimate of the pensions that will be payable in future years dependent on assumptions about mortality rates, salary levels, etc.

The Local Government Pension Scheme liabilities have been estimated by Hymans Robertson LLP, an independent firm of actuaries, estimates for the county council fund being based on the latest full valuation of the scheme as at 31 March 2019.

The significant assumptions used by the actuary have been:

31-Mar-20	Basis for Estimating Assets & Liabilities	31-Mar-21
	Mortality Assumptions	
	Longevity at 65 for Current Pensioners:	
22.0 years	Men	22.2 years
24.0 years	Women	24.4 years
	Longevity at 65 for Future Pensioners:	
22.7 years	Men	23.2 years
25.5 years	Women	26.2 years
	Financial Assumptions	
1.8%	Rate of inflation	2.8%
2.3%	Rate of increase in salaries	3.3%
1.8%	Rate of increase in pensions	2.8%
2.3%	Rate for discounting scheme liabilities	2.1%
25%	Take-up of option to convert annual pension into retirement lump sum for Pre-April 2008 service	25.0%
64%	Take-up of option to convert annual pension into retirement lump sum for Post-April 2008 service	64.0%

The liabilities include an estimated allowance with respect to the McCloud judgement which relates to transitional protection given to some scheme members with respect to changes in the scheme which the Court of Appeal ruled was unlawful discrimination.

The estimation of the defined benefit obligations is sensitive to the actuarial assumptions set out in the table above. The sensitivity analyses below have been determined based on reasonably possible changes of the assumptions occurring at the end of the reporting period and assumes for

each change that the assumption analysed changes while all the other assumptions remain constant. The assumptions in longevity, for example, assume that life expectancy increases or decreases for men and women. In practice, this is unlikely to occur, and changes in some of the assumptions may be interrelated. The estimations in the sensitivity analysis have followed the accounting policies for the scheme, ie on an actuarial basis using the projected unit credit method.

Changes in Assumptions at 31 March 2021	Approximate % Increase to Defined Benefit Obligation	Approximate Monetary Amount £000
0.5% Decrease in Real Discount Rate	13%	1,099
0.5% Increase in the Salary Increase Rate	2%	138
0.5% Increase in the Pension Increase Rate	11%	937
1 Year Increase in Member Life Expectancy	3-5%	248-413

# Impact on the authority's cash flows

The objectives of the scheme are to keep employers' contributions at as constant a rate as possible. The county council has agreed a strategy with the scheme's actuary to achieve a 70% likelihood of a funding level of 100% over the next 20 years. Funding levels are monitored on an annual basis.

The next triennial valuation is due to be completed on 31 March 2022.

The authority anticipated to pay £664k expected contributions to the scheme in 2021/2022 (£505k 20/21).

# 8 Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement – Other Operating Income and Expenditure

19/20	Other Operating Income and Expenditure	20/21
£000		£000
0	Gains/losses on the disposal of non-current assets	94
0	Total Other Operating Income and Expenditure	94

# 9 Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement – Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure

CPCA 19/20	Financing and Investment Income	Group 20/21	CPCA 20/21
£000		£000	£000
(1,646)	Interest Receivable	(809)	(809)
37	IAS 19 - Pension Interest & Return on Assets	41	41
0	Loss in Fair Value of Investments held at Fair Value Profit and Loss	575	4,388
0	Share of Loss of Prop Co 1	292	0
(1,609)	Total Financing and Investment Income	99	3,620

# 10 Comprehensive Income & Expenditure Statement – Non Specific Grant Income

Restated* CPCA 19/20	Taxation and Non-Specific Grant Income	CPCA 20/21
£000		£000
	Non -Specific Government Grants	
(8,000)	Gain Share - Revenue	(8,000)
(1,904)	other	(1,559)
(9,904)	Total Non-Specific Grants	(9,559)
	Capital Grants & Contributions	
(9,946)	Gain Share - Capital	(11,979)
(12,044)	Growth Deal	(4,535)
0	Other	(114)
(21,990)	Total Capital Grants & Contributions	(16,628)
(31,894)	Total Taxation and Non Specific Grant Income	(26,187)

<sup>\*19/20</sup> Restated to show in DfE -Adult Education in Budget in costs of services.

### 11 Related Parties

The Combined Authority is required to disclose material transactions with related parties - bodies or individuals that have the potential to control or influence the Combined Authority or to be controlled or influenced by the Combined Authority.

### a) Central Government

The UK Central Government has significant influence over the general operations of the Combined Authority, it is responsible for providing the statutory framework, within which the Combined Authority operates, provides the majority of its funding in the form of grants and prescribes the terms of many of the transactions that the Combined Authority has with other parties.

The funds received from the Central Government in year were as follows;

2019/20 restated*		2020/21
£000		£000
(9,918)	MHCLG - revenue grants	(9,040)
(12,000)	MHCLG - capital grants	(12,000)
(43,658)	DfT - capital grants	(61,691)
0	DfT - revenue grants	(2,030)
(4,966)	BIES - revenue grants	(1,266)
(17,199)	BEIS - capital grants	(122,388)
(1,400)	DWP - career and pay progression	0
(7,255)	DfE revenue grants	(13,283)
(96,396)	Total Income	(221,698)

<sup>\*</sup>restated to split out BEIS and MHCLG grants

# b) Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Constituent Councils

The Leaders of the district councils, county council and unitary authority also serve as members of the Combined Authority.

The period's transactions, and period end balances were as follows;

2019/20		2020/21
£000		£000
	Expenditure	
	Expenditure with councils	
12,654	Cambridgeshire City Council	4,133
23,093	Cambridgeshire County Council	37,451
286	East Cambridgeshire District Council	290
556	Fenland District Council	1,499
265	Huntingdonshire District Council	185
5,873	Peterborough City Council	14,254
(210)	South Cambridgeshire District Council	(226)
42,537		57,586
	Creditors	
	General Creditors with councils	
(5,459)	Cambridgeshire City Council	(9,100)
3,953	Cambridgeshire County Council	(4,053)
0	East Cambridgeshire District Council	(18)
(506)	Fenland District Council	878
(50)	Huntingdonshire District Council	(51)
(2,643)	Peterborough City Council	(216)
0	South Cambridgeshire District Council	0
(4,705)		(12,560)

## c) Members

The Members of the Combined Authority have direct control over the Combined Authority's financial and operating policies.

The following companies related to Combined Authority Board and Business Board members have received grants, payments for services or investment (Start Codon) during 2020/21.

CPCA 19/20	Company	Reason for Funding	Related Party	CPCA 20/21
£000				£000
75	Cross Keys Homes	Grants for affordable housing	Cllr Holdich / Cllr Fitzgerald	1,470
1,033	City College Peterborough	Adult Education provision and the Health and Social Care Work Academy project	Cllr Holdich	2,281
0	Stainless Metalcraft	Local Growth Fund project – Advanced Manufacturing Centre	Austen Adams	181
42	NIAB	Local Growth Fund projects – Agri-Tech Start-up Incubator and Agri-gate Hasse Fen extension Eastern Agri-tech programme project	Tina Barsby	3,358
0	University of Cambridge	Local Growth Fund project – West Cambs Innovation Park	Professor Andy Neely	3,000
9	Cambridgeshire Chambers of Commerce	Payment for support services in administering grant programmes	Faye Holland	115
0	TWI Ltd	Local Growth Fund project – Ecosystem Innovation Centre	Aamir Khalid	1,230
0	Start Codon Ltd	Local Growth Fund project – Life Sciences Accelerator	Jason Mellad	890

# d) Officers

The senior officers of the Combined Authority may have direct control over the Combined Authority's financial and operating policies.

John Hill is a director of East Cambs Trading Company Limited which the Combined Authority has provided loans to, see note 28.

# e) Group Companies

During the year the Combined Authority incurred spend on behalf of group companies and recharged them for services. The Combined Authority paid Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Business Growth Company Limited for services provided on its behalf. All amounts below were outstanding at 31 March 2021.

Company	Due from CPCA 20/21 £000	Due to CPCA 20/21 £000
	£000	£000
Peterborough HE Property Company Limited	0	3,350
Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Business Growth Company Limited	143	2,116
One Cam Limited	0	1,302
Peterborough R&D Property Company Limited	0	855
Angle Developments Limited	0	12

# 12 Expenditure and Income Analysed by Nature

CPCA	Expenditure and Income Analysed by Nature	CPCA
19/20		20/21
£000		£000
	Expenditure	
5,193	Employee Expenses - Contracts held by CPCA	6,708
181	Employee Expenses - Contracts held by PCC	0
50,737	Capital Grants made treated as REFCUS	109,943
52	Depreciation	37
14,954	Other Service Expenses	39,880
71,117	Total Expenditure	156,568
	Income	
(2,226)	Interest & Investment Income	(1,447)
(79,471)	Government Grants & Contributions	(130,062)
(720)	Other Income	(8,136)
(82,417)	Total Income	(139,645)
(11,300)	Deficit / (Surplus) on the Provision of Services	16,923

# 13 Expenditure and Funding Analysis

The Expenditure and Funding Analysis shows how annual expenditure is used and funded from resources (e.g. government grants) by local authorities in comparison with those resources consumed or earned by authorities in accordance with generally accepted accounting practices. It also shows how this expenditure is allocated for decision making purposes between the Combined Authority's directorates. Income and expenditure accounted for under generally accepted accounting practices is presented more fully in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement (CIES).

2019/20 restated*				2020/21		
Exp Chargeable to the General Fund	Adjustments between the Funding and Accounting Basis	Net exp in the CIES	Exp Adjustments Chargeable between the to the Funding and Accounting Fund Basis		Net exp in the CIES	
£000	£000	£000		£000	£000	£000
3,654	471	4,125	Combined Authority Staffing Costs	3,539	595	4,134
333	0	333	Externally Commissioned Support Services	317	0	317
753	52	805	Corporate Overheads	500	131	631
17	0	17	Governance Costs	49	0	49
352	18	370	Mayor's Office	421	37	458
(251)	0	(251)	Other Corporate Budgets	216	0	216
1,297	(251)	1,046	Business and Skills	411	1	412
3,147	574	3,721	Delivery and Strategy	8,386	1,744	10,130
420	11,617	12,037	Housing	539	22,510	23,049
9,722	12,481	22,203	Net Cost of Services	14,378	25,018	39,396
(13,027)	(20,476)	(33,503)	Other Income & Expenditure	(11,591)	(10,882)	(22,473)
(3,305)	(7,995)	(11,300)	(Surplus) / Deficit on Provision of Services	2,787	14,136	16,923
(13,732)			Opening General Fund Balance	(17,037)		
(3,305)			Less/plus surplus or (deficit) on General Fund balance in year	2,787		
(17,037)			Closing General Fund Balance	(14,250)		

<sup>\*</sup> restated to reflect 2020/21 management reporting headings

### Adjustments between funding and accounting basis:

2019/20 restated*				2020/21				
Adjustments for Capital Purposes <sup>1</sup>	Net Change for Pensions Adjustments <sup>2</sup>	Other Differences <sup>3</sup>	Total Adjustments		Adjustments for Capital Purposes <sup>1</sup>	Net Change for Pensions Adjustments <sup>2</sup>	Other Differences <sup>3</sup>	Total Adjustments
£000	£000	£000	£000		£000	£000	£000	£000
0	471	0	471	Combined Authority Staffing Costs	0	483	112	595
0	0	0	0	External Support Services	0	0	0	0
52	0	0	52	Corporate Overheads	131	0	0	131
0	0	0	0	Governance Costs	0	0	0	0
0	18	0	18	Mayor's Office	0	24	13	37
0	0	0	0	Other Corporate Budgets	0	0	0	0
(251)	0	0	(251)	Business and Skills	1	0	0	1
574	0	0	574	Delivery and Strategy	1,744	0	0	1,744
11,617	0	0	11,617	Housing	22,510	0	0	22,510
11,992	489	0	12,481	Net Cost of Services	24,386	507	125	25,018
(20,500)	37	(13)	(20,476)	Other Income & Expenditure	(10,908)	41	(15)	(10,882)
(8,508)	526	(13)	(7,995)	Difference between general fund surplus or deficit and CIES surplus or deficit on the provision of services	13,478	548	110	14,136

<sup>\*</sup> restated to reflect 2020/21 management reporting headings

#### 1. Adjustments for Capital Purposes:

- for service lines this column adds in depreciation, Revenue Expenditure Funded by Capital Under Statute and associated grant funding and the expected credit losses on capital loans.
- the other income and expenditure line is credited with capital grants receivable in the year without conditions or for which conditions were satisfied in the year and adjusted for capital disposals with a transfer of income on disposal of assets and the amounts written off for those assets.
- 2. Net change for the pension adjustments:
- for service lines this represents the removal of the employer pension contributions made by the Combined authority as allowed by statute and the replacement with current service costs and past service costs.
- for other income and expenditure the net interest on the defined benefit liability is charged to the CIES.
- 3 Other Statutory adjustments:
- for service lines this represent the removal of short term accumulated absences
- for other income and expenditure this column recognises adjustments to the general fund for the timing differences for premiums and discounts.

### 14 Movement in Reserves Statement – Adjustments between Accounting Basis and Funding Basis under Regulations

This note details the adjustments that are made to the total Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement (CIES) recognised by the Combined Authority in the year in accordance with proper accounting practice to the resources that are specified by statutory provisions as being available to the Combined Authority to meet future capital and revenue expenditure.

- General Fund Balance is the statutory fund into which all the receipts of the Combined Authority are required to be paid, and out of which all liabilities of the Combined Authority are to be met, except to the extent that statutory rules might provide otherwise. These rules can also specify the financial year in which liabilities and payments should impact on the General Fund, which is not necessarily in accordance with proper accounting practice. The General Fund Balance therefore summarises the resources that the Combined Authority is statutorily empowered to spend on its services or on capital investment (or the deficit of resources that the Combined Authority is required to recover) at the end of the financial year.
- Capital Receipts Reserve holds the proceeds from the disposal of land or other assets and repayment of loans and continues to be restricted by statute from being used other than to fund new capital expenditure or to be set aside to finance historical capital expenditure.
- Capital Grants Unapplied Account holds the grants and contributions received towards capital projects for which the Combined Authority has met the conditions that would otherwise require repayment of the monies but which have yet to be applied to meet expenditure. The balance is not restricted by grant terms as to the capital expenditure against which it can be applied and / or the financial year in which this can take place.

Usable Reserves are those reserves that can be applied to fund expenditure. The Capital Grants Unapplied Account can only be used to finance the Capital Programme and the General Fund is used by the Combined Authority to maintain a prudent level of reserves.

Unusable Reserves are those reserves that absorb the timing differences arising from different accounting arrangements.

Adjustments between Accounting Basis and Funding Basis under		Usable Reserves			
Regulations 2020/21	General Fund	Capital Receipts Reserve	Capital Grants Unapplied	in Unusable Reserves	
	£000	£000	£000	£000	
Adjustments involving the Capital Adjustment Account:					
Reversal of items debited or credited to the CIES:					
Depreciation & impairment of non-current assets	(37)			37	
Capital grants and contributions	89,400			(89,400)	
Reversal of Expected credit loss on capital loans	18			(18)	
Revenue expenditure funded from capital under statute	(109,943)			109,943	
Loss for Interest foregone on capital loan	(76)			76	
Loss in Fair Value of capital investments	(4,342)			4,342	
Reversal of asset derecognition	(455)			455	
Reversal of proceeds from asset disposal	361			(361)	
Adjustments primarily involving the Capital Grants Unapplied Account:					
Capital grants & contributions unapplied from the CIES	11,596		(11,596)	0	
Application of grants to capital financing transferred to the Capital Adjustment Account			57,563	(57,563)	
Adjustments involving the Capital Receipts Reserve:					
Redemption of Financial Assets (Loans)		(3,171)		3,171	
Application of capital receipts to capital financing transferred to the Capital Adjustment Account		4,958		(4,958)	
Adjustments involving the Pension Reserve:					
Reversal of items relating to retirement benefits debited or credited to the CIES	(548)			548	
Adjustments involving the Accumulated Absences account					
Adjustments for Short term absences	(125)			125	
Adjustments involving the Financial Instruments Adjustment Account:					
Amounts by which finance costs charged to the CIES are different from finance costs chargeable in the year in accordance with statutory requirements.	15			(15)	
Total Adjustments	(14,136)	1,787	45,967	(33,618)	
For group accounts remove Loss in Fair Value of capital investments for group companies consolidated on line by line basis	3,813			(3,813)	
Total Adjustments for Group Accounts	(10,323)	1,787	45,967	(37,431)	

Adjustments between Accounting Basis and Funding Basis under Regulations 2019/20		Usable Reserves		
under Regulations 2013/20	General Fund	Capital Receipts Reserve	Capital Grants Unapplied	in Unusable Reserves
	£000	£000		£000
Adjustments involving the Capital Adjustment Account:				
Reversal of items debited or credited to the CIES:				
Depreciation & impairment of non-current assets	(52)			52
Capital grants and contributions	38,797			(38,797)
Reversal of Expected credit loss on capital loans	(643)			643
Revenue expenditure funded from capital under statute	(50,720)			50,720
Adjustments primarily involving the Capital Grants Unapplied Account:				
Capital grants & contributions unapplied from the CIES	21,673		(21,673)	0
Application of grants to capital financing transferred to the Capital Adjustment Account	(547)		47,760	(47,213)
Adjustments involving the Capital Receipts Reserve:				
Redemption of Financial Assets (Loans)		(254)		254
Application of capital receipts to capital financing transferred to the Capital Adjustment Account		382		(382)
Adjustments involving the Pension Reserve:				
Reversal of items relating to retirement benefits debited or credited to the CIES	(526)			526
Adjustments involving the Financial Instruments Adjustment				
Account:				
Amounts by which finance costs charged to the CIES are different from finance costs chargeable in the year in accordance with statutory requirements.	13			(13)
Total Adjustments	7,995	128	26,087	34,210

# • Summary of Usable and Unusable Reserves

The table below shows the movement on each reserve to give total balances as at 31 March for usable and unusable reserves.

01-Apr-19	Movement	31-Mar-20		01-Apr-20	Movement	31-Mar-21
£000	£000	£000		£000	£000	£000
(11,185)	(2,751)	(13,936)	General Fund Balance	(13,936)	6,134	(7,802)
(2,547)	(554)	(3,101)	Specific Earmarked Reserves	(3,101)	(3,347)	(6,448)
(11,136)	128	(11,008)	Capital Receipts Reserve	(11,008)	1,787	(9,221)
(130,979)	26,087	(104,892)	Capital Grants Unapplied	(104,892)	45,967	(58,925)
(155,847)	22,910	(132,937)	Total Usable Reserves	(132,937)	50,541	(82,396)
			Unusable Reserves			
(4,859)	(34,723)	(39,582)	Capital Adjustment Account	(39,582)	(34,276)	(73,858)
57	(13)	44	Financial Instruments Adjustment Account	44	(15)	29
132	76	208	Financial Instruments Revaluation Reserve	208	57	265
0	0	0	Accumulated Absences Account	0	125	125
0	1,554	1,554	Pensions Fund Reserve	1,554	2,090	3,644
(4,670)	(33,106)	(37,776)	Total Unusable Reserves	(37,776)	(32,019)	(69,795)
(160,517)	(10,196)	(170,713)	Total Usable and Unusable Reserves	(170,713)	18,522	(152,191)

# 15 Movement in Reserves Statement – Transfers to / (from) Earmarked Reserves

This note sets out the amounts set aside from the General Fund Balance in earmarked reserves to provide financing for future expenditure plans and the amounts posted back from earmarked reserves to meet General Fund expenditure.

	01-Apr-20	Trf. Out	Trf. In	Movement	31-Mar-21	Purpose of the Earmarked Reserve
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	
Revenue Reserve	1,000	0	0	0	1,000	This reserve provides a working balance to cover risks to the revenue budget.
Elections Costs Reserve	520	0	260	260	780	This reserve smooths the impact on the revenue budget of the Mayoral elections which take place every four years.
AEB Reserve	659	0	1,189	1,189	1,848	This reserve holds the balance of adult education budget funding to maintain a locally determined ringfence between financial years.
Business Board Strategic Revenue Reserves	0	(46)	774	728	728	This reserve holds un-ringfenced revenue funds which are received by the Combined Authority as the Accountable Body for the Business Board.
Departmental Reserves	922	0	1,170	1,170	2,092	These represent unspent grant funding and other income which does not require repayment, but is earmarked for projects in future years.
Total Reserves	3,101	(46)	3,393	3,347	6,448	

# 16 Capital Grants Unapplied Reserve

	01-Apr-20	Trf. Out	Trf. In	31-Mar-21
	£000	£000	£000	£000
Gain Share - Capital	43,344		11,952	55,296
Housing Grant - General	16,387	(12,758)		3,629
Housing Grant - Cambridge	13,979	(13,979)		0
Local Growth Fund	31,183	(31,183)		0
Total Capital Grants Unapplied	104,893	(57,920)	11,952	58,925

In March 2021 the Secretary of State for the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government transferred responsibility for delivering the Affordable Housing programme within Cambridge City to Cambridge City Council, as such the remaining balance of the "Housing Grant - Cambridge" was paid across to the City Council to support their delivery.

# 17 Capital Adjustment Account

2019/20	Capital Adjustment Account	2020/21
£000		£000
(4,859)	Balance Brought Forward	(39,582)
	Reversal of Items Debited or Credited to the Comprehensive Income & Expenditure Statement:	
(38,797)	Capital Grants & Contributions credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement that have been applied to Capital Financing	(89,400)
50,720	Revenue Expenditure Funded from Capital under Statute	109,943
254	Redemption of financial assets (loans)	3,171
(382)	transfer from usable capital receipts	(4,958)
52	charges for depreciation	37
0	Asset derecognition	455
0	Proceeds from asset disposal	(361)
0	Loss for Interest foregone on capital loan	76
0	Loss in Fair Value of capital investments	4,342
643	charges for expected credit loss relating to capital loans	(18)
(35,284)	Application of grants to finance capital loans from the Capital Grants Unapplied Accounts	(4,267)
(11,929)	Application of Grants to Capital Financing from the Capital Grants Unapplied Account	(53,296)
(39,582)	Balance Carried Forward	(73,858)

## 18 Financial Instruments Adjustment Account

The Financial Instruments Adjustment Account absorbs the timing differences arising from the different arrangements for accounting for income and expenses relating to certain financial instruments and for bearing losses or benefitting from gains per statutory provisions.

2019/20	Financial Instruments Adjustment Account	
£000		£000
57	Balance Brought Forward	44
(13)	Amounts arising from timing differences associated with certain financial instruments	(15)
44	Balance Carried Forward	29

#### 19 Financial Instruments Revaluation Reserve

The Financial Instruments Revaluation Reserve contains the gains and losses made by the Combined Authority arising from changes in the value of its investments that are measured at fair value through other comprehensive income.

2019/20	Financial Instruments Revaluation Reserve	
£000		£000
132	Balance Brought Forward	208
76	Impairment of Equity Instrument	57
208	Balance Carried Forward	265

#### 20 Accumulated Absences Account

The accumulated absences account absorbs the differences that would otherwise arise on the General Fund balance from accruing for compensated absences earned but not taken in the year, e.g. annual leave entitlement carried forward at 31 March. Statutory arrangements require that the impact on the General Fund balance is neutralised by transfers to or from the account.

2019/20	Accumulated Absences Account	2020/21
£000		£000
0	Balance Brought Forward	0
0	Amounts Accrued at the end of the current year	125
0	Balance Carried Forward	125

### 21 Pensions Reserve

The Pensions Reserve absorbs the timing differences arising from the different arrangements for accounting for post-employment benefits and for funding benefits in accordance with statutory provisions. The Combined Authority accounts for post-employment benefits in the comprehensive income and expenditure statement as the benefits are earned by employees accruing years of service, updating the liabilities recognised to reflect inflation, changing assumptions and investment returns on any resources set aside to meet the costs. However, statutory arrangements require benefits earned to be financed as the Combined Authority makes employer's contributions to pension funds or eventually pays any pensions for which it is directly responsible. The debit balance on the Pensions Reserve therefore shows a shortfall in the benefits earned by past and current employees and the resources the Combined Authority has set aside to meet them. The statutory arrangements will ensure that funding will have been set aside by the time the benefits come to be paid.

2019/20	Pensions Reserve	2020/21
£000		£000
0	Balance Brought Forward	1,554
1,351	Recognition of net Defined Benefit Liability on transfer in IAS19 basis	0
(323)	Remeasurements of the net defined benefit liability	1,542
1,117	Reversal of items relating to retirement benefits debited or credited to the surplus or deficit on the provision of services in the comprehensive income and expenditure statement	1,216
(591)	Employer's pensions contributions and direct payments to pensioners payable in the year	(668)
1,554	Balance Carried Forward	3,644

# 22 Property, Plant and Equipment

		Group		CPCA		
	Vehicle, Plant, furniture & equipment	Assets under construction	Total Property, Plant & Equipment	Vehicle, Plant, furniture & equipment	Assets under construction	Total Property, Plant & Equipment
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Cost or valuation						
At 01 April 2020	287	361	648	287	361	648
Additions	28	702	730	28		28
Disposals	(156)	(361)	(517)	(156)	(361)	(517)
At 31 March 2021	159	702	861	159	0	159
Accumulated Depreciation & Impairments						
At 01 April 2020	104	0	104	104	0	104
Depreciation Charge	37	0	37	37	0	37
Disposals	(62)	0	(62)	(62)	0	(62)
At 31 March 2021	79	0	79	79	0	79
Net Book Value						
At 31 March 2021	80	702	782	80	0	80
At 31 March 2020	183	361	544	183	361	544

# 23 Capital Expenditure and Capital Financing

The total amount of capital expenditure incurred in the year is shown in the following table, together with the resources that have been used to finance the expenditure.

2019/20	Capital Financing Requirement	2020/21
£000		£000
0	Opening Capital Financing Requirement	0
	Capital Investment	
50,720	Revenue Expenditure Funded from Capital Under Statute	109,943
388	Property Plant and Equipment	28
0	Equity Instruments	34,282
35,284	Capital loans	8,029
	Sources of Finance	
(382)	Usable Capital receipts	(5,319)
(47,213)	Capital grants unapplied	(57,563)
(38,797)	Capital Grants & Contributions	(89,400)
0	Closing Capital Financing Requirement	0

## 24 Combined Authority Leasing Arrangements

## **Combined Authority as Lessee - Operating Leases**

The Combined Authority's only material operating lease was for the office in Alconbury. The lease was surrendered during 2020/21. The amount charged to Costs of Services in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement during the year was £170k (£174k 19/20).

### 25 Financial Instruments

Under IFRS 9 the financial assets on the Balance Sheet are now classified by one of the following categories in the table below:

- Amortised Cost
- Fair Value through the Income and Expenditure (FVOCI)
- Fair Value through the Profit and Loss (FVPL)

The gains and losses recognised in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement in relation to financial instruments are made up as follows:

2019/20		2020/21
£000		£000
(1,637)	Interest Income - Treasury Management	(794)
(589)	Interest Income - Service Loans	(803)
0	Reduction in carrying amount of Service Loans due to interest foregone	150
643	movement in expected credit loss allowances	(18)
0	loss from changes in Fair Value (FVPL assets)	4,389
(1,583)	Net impact on surplus/deficit on provision of services	2,924
76	loss from changes in Fair Value (FVOCI assets)	57
76	Impact on Other Comprehensive income	57
(1,507)	Net (gain)/loss for the year	2,981

The following categories of financial instrument are carried in the Balance Sheet:

31-Mar-20			31-Mar-21		
Long Term	Current (restated)		Long Term	Current	
£000	£000		£000	£000	
		Assets at Amortised Cost:			
0	80,699	Investments - Amortised Cost	10,000	138,100	
0	80,565	Cash & Cash Equivalents	0	83,697	
19,677	0	Debtors - Service Loans	22,469	21,308	
0	20,377	Debtors - Other	0	10,760	
		Assets at Fair Value:			
		Investments at Fair Value Profit and Loss	30,984	0	
133		Medtech Shares - Designated FVOCI	75	0	
19,810	181,641	Total Financial Assets	63,528	253,865	
		Liabilities at Amortised Cost:			
0	(12,955)*	Creditors	0	(52,398)	
0	(12,955)	Total Financial Liabilities	0	(52,398)	

<sup>\*</sup>Restated to exclude receipts in advance as not financial instrument.

#### 26 Fair Value of Financial Assets and Financial Liabilities

Financial liabilities and financial assets represented by loans and receivables are carried in the balance sheet at amortised cost.

Their fair value has been assessed by calculating the net present value of the cash flows that will take place over the remaining term of the instruments, using the following assumptions:

- The fair values of other long-term investments have been discounted at the market rates for similar instruments with similar remaining terms to maturity on 31st March
- Service loans have been discounted using a rate with an equivalent margin over current base rate to that at the time the loan was agreed
- no early repayment is recognised.
- where an instrument has a maturity of less than 12 months or is a trade or other receivable the fair value is taken to be the carrying amount or the billed amount.

• For equity and equity type investments, the fair value has been assumed as the Combined Authority's share of shareholders funds as at 31 March 2021, except for investments in Start Codon where the fund valuation has been used and Illumina investments where an estimate has been made of the value to be received under the agreements.

With the introduction of IFRS 9 the authority has designated the Medtech shares at 31 March 2020 as fair value through other comprehensive income. This is because the shares are not held for trading or income generation, rather a longer term policy initiative.

The Fair Values calculated are as follows:

31-Mar-20				31-Mar-21	
Carrying Amount (restated)	Fair Value		Fair Value Level	Carrying Amount	Fair Value
£000	£000			£000	£000
		Assets at Amortised Cost:			
0	0	LT Investments - Amortised Cost	2	10,000	10,053
39,019	40,127	Debtors - Service Loans	2	43,777	43,965
		Assets at Fair Value:			
0	0	Investments at Fair Value Profit and Loss	3	30,984	30,984
133	133	Medtech Shares - Designated FVOCI	3	75	75
39,152	40,260	Total		84,836	85,077
		Assets for which Fair Value is not disclosed:			
80,699		ST Investments - Amortised Cost		138,100	
80,565		Cash & Cash Equivalents		83,697	
1,035*		Debtors - Other		10,760	
201,451		Total Financial Assets		317,393	
		Liabilities for which Fair Value is not disclosed:			
(12,955)**		Creditors		(52,398)	
(12,955)		Total Financial Liabilities		(52,398)	

<sup>\*</sup>Restated due to error in calculation.

<sup>\*\*</sup>Restated to exclude receipts in advance as not financial instrument.

### 27 Nature and Extent of Risks Arising from Financial Instruments

The Combined Authority's activities expose it to a variety of financial risks:

- Credit risk the possibility that other parties might fail to pay amounts due to the Combined Authority.
- Liquidity risk the possibility that the Combined Authority might not have funds available to meet its commitments to make payments.
- Market risk the possibility that financial loss might arise for the Combined Authority as a result of changes in such measures as interest rates and money market movements.

The Combined Authority's overall risk management programme focuses on the unpredictability of financial markets and seeks to minimise potential adverse effects on the resources available to fund services. Risk management is carried out by the Finance team, under policies approved annually by the Combined Authority in the Treasury Management Strategy. The Combined Authority provides written principles for overall risk management, as well as written policies covering specific areas, such as interest rate risk, credit risk and the investment of surplus cash.

#### Credit risk

The Combined Authority manages credit risk by ensuring that treasury investments are only placed with organisations of high credit quality as set out in the Treasury Management Strategy. These include commercial entities with a minimum long-term credit rating of A-, the UK government, other local authorities, and organisations without credit ratings upon which the Council has received independent investment advice.

A limit of £25m of the total portfolio is placed on the amount of money that can be invested with a single counterparty (other than the UK government). For unsecured investments in banks, building societies and companies, a smaller limit of £15m applies. The Combined Authority also sets limits on investments in certain sectors.

Combined Authority had a total of £231.0m deposited with the Debt Management Office (DMO), other local authorities, UK banks and CCLA at 31 March 2021. As the DMO is within the scope of HM Treasury this reduces the overall credit risk. There is a specific risk attached to amounts deposited with the individual institutions based on their ability to make interest payments and repay the principal outstanding, it is however more difficult to assess the risk in general terms. Recent experience has shown that it is rare for such entities to not meet their commitments. Whilst there is a risk of recoverability with regard to these deposits, there was no evidence that this was likely at 31 March 2021 and no Expected Credit Loss allowances have been made on treasury investments. We are in constant communication with our treasury advisors to update our position in accordance with their advice on managing emerging risks particularly relating to COVID 19.

Expected Credit Loss calculations on service loans outstanding at year end have been adjusted for the expected impact of COVID-19 across the relevant sector.

### **Liquidity Risk**

The Combined Authority has a comprehensive cash flow management system that seeks to ensure that cash is available as needed. In the unlikely event that unexpected movements happen, the Combined Authority has ready access to borrowings from the Public Works Loans Board (PWLB), other local authorities at favourable rates and the money market generally. There is no significant risk that it will be unable to raise finance to meet its commitments.

#### Market risks:

#### Interest rate risk

The Combined Authority is exposed to risk in terms of its exposure to interest rate movements on its and investments. Movements in interest rates have a complex impact on the Combined Authority. For instance, a rise in interest rates would have the following effects:

- investments at fixed rates the fair value of the assets will fall
- investments at variable rates the interest income credited to the (Surplus) / Deficit on the Provision of Services will rise

The Finance Team assesses interest rate exposure which feeds into the setting of the annual budget and is used to update the forecasts during the period. This allows any adverse changes to be accommodated.

#### **Price Risk**

The Combined Authority holds shares in several companies for service delivery purposes, which are not publicly traded. For most of these companies, the value in the accounts is based on the shareholder funds held on the 31st March 2021, rather than a market share value, as such for these companies, we do not consider there to be exposure to losses arising from movements in the traded price of shares. During 20/21 the Combined Authority invested Local Growth Funds in the Start Codon and Illumina projects which provide funding and support to local start-up companies across the Biomedical, healthcare technology and life sciences sectors. The value of the funds invested are exposed to the changes in the companies' values, however this risk is acceptably tolerated as no reliance has been placed on these funds for future service delivery, thus any losses would not have an effect on the wider financial sustainability of the Combined Authority.

# Foreign Exchange Risk

The Combined Authority has no liabilities denominated in foreign currencies and one future agreement for equity which will be denominated in a foreign currency however it's total value will be £100k on the date of maturity thus there is no material risk arising from movements in exchange rates.

### 28 Debtors

CPCA 31-Mar-20	Short Term Debtors	Group 31-Mar-21	CPCA 31-Mar-21
£000		£000	£000
616	Central government bodies	1,620	1,620
226	Other local authorities	993	993
19,535	Other entities and individuals	21,772	21,772
0	Group Companies	3,362	7,635
6,057	Prepayments	6,991	6,991
26,434	Total Short Term Debtors	34,738	39,011

Restated* CPCA 31-Mar-20	Long Term Debtors	CPCA 31-Mar-21
£000		£000
19,091	Other entities and individuals	21,868
586	Other local authorities	601
19,677	Total Long Term Debtors	22,469

<sup>\*31</sup> March 20 restated to split out Other local authorities' balance.

'Other' includes loans of £24.0m to East Cambs Trading Company, £14.0m to other housing developers, and £5.8m of Growth Fund loans which are split across both short- and long-term debtors (19/20 £26.3m ECTC, £6.8m other housing and £5.9m of Growth Fund Loans).

### 29 Creditors

CPCA 31-Mar-20	Short Term Creditors	Group 31-Mar-21	CPCA 31-Mar-21
£000		£000	£000
(8,652)	Central government bodies	(9,565)	(9,327)
(4,704)	Other local authorities	(19,625)	(19,625)
(8,051)	Other entities and individuals	(8,344)	(8,335)
0	Group Companies	(18,439)	(22,985)
(21,407)	Total Short Term Creditors	(55,973)	(60,272)

#### 30 Provisions

The Combined Authority has an outstanding matter in relation to pension obligations relating to the transfer of ex-GCGP LEP staff to the Combined Authority in April 2018. The Combined Authority is working with the pension fund providers to confirm the nature and timing of the obligation and of the quantum of any liability attached to this obligation. The total potential liability is estimated at £226k.

# 31 Capital Grants Receipts in Advance

The Combined Authority has received a number of capital grants that have yet to be recognised as income as they have conditions attached to them that will require the monies to be returned to the funding body if not met. The balances at the year-end are as follows:

CPCA 31-Mar-20	Capital Grants Received in Advance	CPCA 31-Mar-21
£000		£000
(13,268)	Transforming Cities Fund	(25,772)
(1,110)	National Productivity Infrastructure Fund	0
0	Pothole and Flood Resistance	(3,075)
0	Green Homes LAD 2 Energy Grant	(79,236)
(14,378)	Total Capital Grants Received in Advance	(108,083)

### 32 Cash Flow Statement - Investing Activities

Short Term Investments are sums invested with a maturity of greater than three months but less than 12 months at the balance sheet date. Sums invested with a maturity of less than three months at the balance sheet date are classified as Cash and Cash Equivalents, see note 0. The cash flows for investing activities include the following items:

СРСА	Cash Flow Statement – Investing Activities	Group	СРСА
2019/20		2020/21	2020/21
£000		£000	£000
22,956	Purchase of Short & Long-Term Investments	76,571	79,570
387	Purchase of Property, Plant & Equipment	27	27
35,284	Cash advanced for capital loans	7,140	7,140
(254)	Proceeds from loan repayments	(2,865)	(2,865)
58,373	Net Cash flows from investing activities	80,873	83,872

# 33 Cash Flow Statement – Cash and Cash Equivalents

The balance of Cash and Cash Equivalents is shown in the following table.

СРСА	Cash Flow Statement - Cash & Cash Equivalents	Group	СРСА
2019/20		2020/21	2020/21
£000		£000	£000
79,921	Short Term Cash Investments	83,131	83,131
644	Bank Accounts	3,565	566
80,565		86,696	83,697

# Glossary

- Accounting Period 1 April to 31 March is the local authority accounting period. It is also termed the financial year.
- Accruals Revenue and capital income and expenditure are recognised as they are earned or incurred, not as money is received or paid. Transactions are accrued with income and expenditure due but unpaid at 31 March brought into the accounts.
- Annual Governance Statement Identifies the systems that the Combined Authority has in place to ensure that its business is conducted in accordance with the law and proper standards and that public money is safeguarded.
- Balance Sheet This statement is fundamental to the understanding of the Combined Authority's financial position at the year-end. It shows the balances and reserves at the Combined Authority's disposal and its long term indebtedness. It also shows the long term and net current assets employed in its operations.
- Balances The non-earmarked reserves of the Combined Authority. These are made up of the accumulated surplus of income over expenditure. This is known as the General Fund Balance. Adequate revenue balances are needed to meet unexpected expenditure or a shortfall in income. The Combined Authority may decide to use its revenue balances to reduce its budget and thus its call on the Collection Fund.
- Budget A statement of an Combined Authority's plans for net revenue and capital expenditure.
- Capital Expenditure Expenditure on the acquisition or development of major assets which will be of use or benefit to a Authority in providing its services beyond the year of account.
- Capital Grant A grant received towards the capital expenditure incurred on a particular service or project. Capital grants can be made by an Authority.
- Cash Equivalent An investment that is liquid and matures within three months. There is no significant risk to the value on redemption.
- Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting The statutory accounting code published by CIPFA.
- Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement or CIES- Reports the income and expenditure for all the Combined Authority's services. The CIES demonstrates how services have been financed from general government grants and income from taxpayers.
- Creditor An amount owed by the Combined Authority for work done, goods received or services rendered to the Combined Authority within the accounting period but for which payment has not been made.
- Current Asset An asset which can be expected to be consumed or realised during the next accounting period.
- Current Liability An amount which will become payable or could be called in within the next accounting period.
- Debtor An amount owed to the Combined Authority within the accounting period, but not received at the Balance Sheet date.

- Effective Rate of Interest The rate of interest that is consistent with estimated cash flows over the life of a financial instrument and its initial value in the balance sheet. It is calculated using discounted cash flow.
- Fair Value Fair value is an important in setting the value for various assets in the balance sheet. It is the amount for which an asset could be exchanged, or a liability settled, between knowledgeable, willing parties in an arm's length transaction.
- Financial Asset A right to future economic benefits controlled by the Combined Authority. Examples include bank deposits, investments made and loans receivable by the Combined Authority.
- Financial Instrument This is an important definition in understanding the accounts. It includes both financial assets and liabilities. A financial instrument is any contract that gives rise to a financial asset of one entity and a financial liability or equity instrument of another.
- Financial Liability An obligation to transfer economic benefits controlled by the Combined Authority. Examples include borrowings, financial guarantees and amounts owed to trade creditors.
- General Fund The main fund of the Combined Authority that meets the cost of most services provided by the Combined Authority. The services are paid for from Council Tax, business rates, government grant and other income.
- Government Grants and Subsidies Grants towards either the revenue or capital cost of Combined Authority services. These may be either in respect of particular services or purposes, (specific and supplementary grants), or in aid of local services generally such as Revenue Support Grant.
- Movement in Reserves Statement or MIRS This statement shows the movement in the year on the different reserves held by the Combined Authority, analysed into 'usable reserves' (i.e. those that can be applied to fund expenditure or reduce local taxation) and unusable reserves.
- Non-current asset An asset which has value beyond one financial year.
- Non-Domestic Rates (NDR) or business rates The rates payable by businesses on their properties are calculated by applying a nationally determined multiplier to the rateable value of the property. There is a lower multiplier for small businesses.
- *Precept* The Combined Authority is not empowered to bill council tax payers directly. Instead it may raise a precept on the billing authorities that are its members.
- Reserves Amounts set aside for purposes falling outside the strict definition of provisions are considered as reserves. Reserves include earmarked reserves set aside for specific projects or service areas, or expected future commitments.
- Revenue Expenditure The day-to-day running costs the Combined Authority incurs in providing services (as opposed to capital expenditure).
- *Usable Reserves* Those reserves that can be applied by the Combined Authority to fund expenditure or reduce local taxation.
- *Unusable Reserves* Those reserves that absorb the timing differences arising from different accounting arrangements. Unusable reserves are not available to fund expenditure or reduce local taxation.

# **Annual Governance Statement**

For the year ended 31 March 2021

# Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority Annual Governance Statement – 2020/21

# **Scope of Responsibility**

The Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority ("the Authority") is responsible for ensuring that its business is conducted in accordance with the law and proper standards and that public money is safeguarded and properly accounted for and used economically, efficiently, and effectively. The Authority is also the accountable body for the Local Enterprise Partnership (known as the Business Board) and Greater South East Energy Hub.

The Combined Authority also has a duty under the Local Government Act 1999 to arrange to secure continuous improvement in the way in which its functions are exercised.

In discharging this overall responsibility, the Authority is responsible for putting in place proper arrangements for the governance of its affairs, facilitating the effective exercise of its functions including arrangements for the management of risk.

The Authority was formally established on 3 March 2017 and continues to develop and refine its governance arrangements through regular review of its key documents. Latest copies of its constitution, assurance framework and monitoring and evaluation framework are available on its website.

The governance arrangements will comply with the principles of the Local Code of Governance, which is consistent with the principles of the CIPFA / SOLACE Framework *Delivering Good Governance in Local Government 2016 and the National Local Growth Assurance Framework* (January 2019).

This statement explains how the Combined Authority has complied with the Code and meets the requirements of the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015 Regulation 6.1 (b) in relation to the publication of an Annual Governance Statement.

The Authority acknowledges that good governance arrangements will enable it to establish effective policies and to deliver ambitious programmes to communities in the combined authority area. The arrangements put in place must be both robust and adaptable to deliver its objectives in a dynamic and strategic environment.

# The Purpose of the Governance Framework

The governance framework comprises the systems, processes, culture and values, by which the Authority is directed and controlled and how it engages with and leads the community in those activities for which it is accountable. It enables the authority to monitor the achievement of its strategic objectives and to consider whether those objectives have led to the delivery of appropriate, cost effective services.

The system of internal control is a significant part of that framework and is designed to manage risk to a reasonable level. The system of internal control is based on an ongoing process designed to identify and prioritise the risks to the achievement of the Authority's policies, aims and objectives, to evaluate the likelihood of and potential impact of those risks being realised and to manage them efficiently, effectively and economically.

#### **The Governance Framework**

#### Context

Between March and June 2016, seven constituent councils across the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough area negotiated a devolution deal with Government. In June 2016, the constituent councils agreed a scheme for a combined authority for the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough area, with a directly elected Mayor, for wider consultation. Following extensive consultation with residents, businesses and stakeholders in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough over a six week period, the seven councils submitted the scheme to the Secretary of State for approval in November 2016. The Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority Order 2017 was made on 2 March 2017 and came into force on 3 March 2017.

The Cities and Local Government Devolution Act 2016 came into force on 28 March 2016, making Cambridgeshire and Peterborough local authorities amongst the first to establish a combined authority for its area under these new provisions. Following the making of the Order, the Authority's first directly elected Mayor was elected on 4 May 2017 for a four-year term of office. The Authority's second mayoral election was held on 6 May 2021.

The powers which have been devolved from Central Government to the Combined Authority include:

- Control of a £20 million a year funding allocation, over 30 years, to be invested in the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Single Investment Fund, to boost growth.
- Funding to deliver new homes over a five-year period in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough which includes affordable, rented and shared ownership housing.
- Responsibility for chairing an area-based review of 16+ skills provision.
- Responsibility to develop a more effective joint working with the Department for International Trade to boost trade and investment through agreement of a Joint Export Plan
- Powers devolved to the Mayor as part of the devolution plan include:
  - Responsibility for a multi-year, consolidated and devolved transport budget.
  - Responsibility for an identified Key Route Network of local authority roads.
  - Powers over strategic planning and the responsibility to create a non-statutory spatial framework for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough and to develop with Government a Land Commission.

Further secondary legislation has since come into force to increase its powers. This includes:

- Mayoral powers to levy a business rate supplement to raise money for projects that will promote economic development.
- Devolved powers for the Adult Education Budget and associated powers to deliver an adult education service that supports wider economic and social priorities.
- Housing regulations enabling the Combined Authority to fund homes for Affordable Rent.

The Combined Authority is small in size and while it has been strategic in nature, it is also an operational delivery body for functions including the provision of bus services. It is also the local transport authority for the area of Cambridgeshire and Peterborough. The Authority has mainly delivered through a commissioning model with delivery being undertaken by those best qualified to do so across the public and private sector. It has increased staff numbers and increasingly delivers through the internal expertise of its employed officers across a range of disciplines.

# **Delivery through Subsidiary Undertakings**

The Combined Authority currently has 6 subsidiary companies over which it has a significant level of control. Material trading activity of the subsidiaries only started in 2020-21 and, as such the governance arrangements of these companies has become increasingly important. This is an area of significant interest across the Local Authority sector given the high-profile issues that have come to light following Croydon Council's S114 notice and CIPFA will be publishing new guidance on governance of Local Authority Trading Companies (LATC) to address this. The Combined Authority will review its LATC governance arrangements once the guidance has been published, to ensure they are appropriate and effective.

The Chief Internal Auditor of a Local Authority is required annually to provide their opinion on the overall systems of internal control and their effectiveness.

There has been investment in the capability of company oversight and management, with a dedicate company secretariat/governance lead officer and regular meetings to review the regulatory compliance, and finance standing of the companies.

In addition, officers are working with the Audit and Governance and Overview and Scrutiny committees to develop and deliver appropriate oversight arrangements in respect of the companies.

# **Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority Structure**

The Authority is made up of a directly elected Mayor and the following seven local authorities (referred to as the Constituent Councils) and the Local Enterprise Partnership known as the Business Board:

- Cambridge City Council;
- Cambridgeshire County Council;
- East Cambridgeshire District Council;
- Fenland District Council;
- Huntingdonshire District Council;
- Peterborough City Council; and
- South Cambridgeshire District Council.

In addition, the Authority co-opts the Police and Crime Commissioner, a representative of the CCG, and a representative from the fire authority.

The Constitution for the Authority sets out the Authority's governance arrangements. It sets out the powers and functions of the Combined Authority, including matters reserved to the Mayor and Board, financial procedures, contract standing orders, Member Codes of Conduct, the scheme of delegation to officers and arrangements for the operation of executive committees, an overview and scrutiny committee, and an audit and governance committee function.

The Scheme of Delegation provides for the day-to-day management and oversight of the Authority including the responsibilities of the Head of Paid Service, the Chief Finance Officer and the Monitoring Officer.

The key elements of the governance framework, its systems and processes, are outlined below.

#### Board

Each of the Constituent Councils appoints a nominated representative to be a Member of the Combined Authority and another Member to act in his or her absence. The Business Board (LEP) also nominates one of its Members, normally the Chair and a substitute member, to be its representative. The Business Board representative has full voting rights on the board.

The Combined Authority Members comprise the Board. The Board's role and powers are set out in the constitution. Essentially, it provides strategic leadership for the Combined Authority area, approving strategies, policies and overseeing fiscal matters to ensure that the required outcomes are delivered.

The Combined Authority Board has invited the following organisations with direct responsibility for functions relevant to the Combined Authority objectives to become co-opted Members to attend the Combined Authority Board and may take part in the debate.

- (a) The Police and Crime Commissioner for Cambridgeshire;
- (b) Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Fire Authority representative;
- (c) Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Clinical Commissioning Group representative.

### Mayor

Certain functions are reserved to the Mayor as set down in the Order and the Constitution. The Mayor has an overall leadership role and chairs the Board meetings. Both the Mayor and the Combined Authority have a general power of competence.

The functions of the Combined Authority are grouped into portfolios. In accordance with the Combined Authority's Constitution, the Mayor and the Combined Authority Board agree portfolio responsibilities in respect of those functions. The Mayor nominates Lead Members from amongst the Members of the seven constituent councils who are formally approved by the Board. Each Lead Member leads on his/her allocated portfolio functions and is accountable for his/her allocated area. Lead Members do not have delegated powers.

As of the local elections in May 2021 the Combined Authority Board has 3 new Board Members, including a new Mayor. This change in leadership is likely to result in a change in portfolio responsibilities and strategic direction of the Authority as a whole, but it is too early to say what these changes will be with certainty as the new administration has only been in post for a short time.

#### **Executive Committees**

In September 2018, the Board set up three executive committees; the Transport and Infrastructure Committees, the Skills Committee and the Housing and Communities Committee. By placing responsibility for three of the largest portfolios into a committee system, it enabled the Combined Authority to meet challenges of resilience and volume. The Chair of each committee leads the portfolio responsibilities of that committee and can distribute responsibility for delivering discreet areas of the portfolio amongst the members of the committee. By creating a division of the portfolio workload across the committee members, the Combined Authority ensures a measure of continuity in the delivery of its key projects. A committee system also allows member oversight of the delivery of its programme of works against the Combined Authority's Assurance Framework and Monitoring and Evaluation Framework.

In September 2019 the Combined Authority Board agreed amendment to the Authority's constitution to strengthen the role of the Executive Committees by delegating to them decision-making powers previously exercised by the Combined Authority Board. The membership of the Executive Committee was expanded to include representatives of all the constituent councils on each committee.

The advantages of these arrangements include:

- Creating more realistic workloads for the members of the Combined Authority Board, who are also the Leaders of their councils.
- Allowing members of the Combined Authority Board to have a strategic focus.

- Increasing the profile of the Authority amongst the constituent councils.
- Increasing the understanding of the Authority amongst constituent councils.
- Sharing of knowledge and regional issues.
- Improving cross-boundary co-operation.
- Bringing in additional member expertise to the Authority in key areas, and
- Decreasing the frequency of Combined Authority Board meetings.

The effectiveness of these governance arrangements is kept under review by the Authority's Audit & Governance Committee. A review is due to take place in the summer and autumn of 2021.

# **Overview and Scrutiny Committee**

The Combined Authority has established an overview and scrutiny committee to comply with the requirements of the Combined Authorities (Overview and Scrutiny Committees, Access to Information and Audit Committees) Order 2017. The Committee comprises 14 elected councillors, two from each of the seven constituent councils, and reflects the political balance across the combined authority area. Its primary role is to review and scrutinise decisions of the combined authority and the Business Board. They monitor the Forward Plan of forthcoming key decisions and may call-in any of these decisions where members consider that further scrutiny and challenge is required.

The committee undertakes other roles including pre-decision scrutiny where they can act as a "critical friend" to highlight key issues, and challenge policies at the developmental stage. The committee has set up two task and finish groups, one to consider the Cambridgeshire Autonomous Metro project and one to consider the Authority's Bus Review. The Mayor and Chief Executive attend meetings at least quarterly to update the committee and to answer any questions. The committee has also responded to the change in the Authority's governance arrangements by revising its own arrangements for pre-scrutiny to allow lead members appointed by the Committee to formulate questions for the Executive Committees.

In order to support its future work and the development of its role the Overview and Scrutiny Committee sought, through the Combined Authority Board a review of their working arrangements. This was carried out by CfGS (The Centre for Governance and Scrutiny), and is due to report at the time this statement is being prepared.

#### **Audit and Governance Committee**

The Board has established an Audit and Governance Committee in accordance with the Combined Authorities (Overview and Scrutiny Committees, Access to Information and Audit Committees) Order 2017. It comprises 7 elected members reflecting the political balance across the area and an independent person who chairs the meetings.

The Chair of the Audit and Governance Committee presented his annual report to the Committee in April 2021 for consideration before being presented to the Combined Authority Board in June. The annual report highlights the work of the Committee for the Municipal Year and details the following:

- Background to the Committee, its roles, responsibilities and membership;
- An overview and coverage of its remit including Internal Audit, Accounts and Financial Management, External Audit, Risk Management, Control Assurance, Corporate Governance, and Fraud and Irregularities;
- Training provided to ensure that suitable challenge and scrutiny is adopted.
- Records of complaints, Freedom of Information requests and attendance levels for the committee to consider.

The Audit and Governance Committee has an independent chair, who was re-appointed for a second period of four years in 2021.

# **Business Board (Local Enterprise Partnership)**

On 1 April 2018, the Greater Cambridge Greater Peterborough Local Enterprise Partnership was dissolved, and a new Local Enterprise Partnership was formally created in September 2018 and is known as the Business Board. The Business Board is a voluntary partnership between constituent councils and non-constituent local authorities and the business community, playing a key role in determining local economic priorities and growth. The Partnership is a key interface with Central Government and the region and offers policy advice and strategic direction aligned to the Authority's objectives.

The current membership comprises fourteen members, which includes two public sector members and up to twelve business representatives from amongst the key sectors across the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough area. The majority members on the Board are from the private sector. Membership of the Business Board reflects two key priorities:

(1) that the Business Board should be predominantly private sector led to provide the best possible platform for businesses within the area and that

(2) the Board ought to be comprised of representatives of those key sectors which are driving economic growth in the area.

The Mayor and the Portfolio Holder for Economic Growth are members of the Business Board recognising the importance of its role and of the private sector in any growth strategies for delivery in the Authority's area.

The Business Board is closely aligned to the Authority through a unified assurance framework and has a single staffing structure under the Authority's Chief Executive. The Authority is the accountable body for the Business Board.

The Business Board's constitutional arrangements comply with the National Local Growth Assurance Framework and with the joint Local Assurance Framework for the Authority and the Business Board.

# **Strategic Direction**

The Authority continues to make good progress in developing its strategic direction.

- 1. The **Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Independent Economic Review** (CPIER) was commissioned by the Combined Authority and other local partners to provide a world-class evidence base, alongside independent and expert analysis, to inform future strategies and investment. It was also informed by two rounds of open public consultation. The CPIER is publicly available at <a href="https://www.cpier.org.uk">www.cpier.org.uk</a>.
- 2. The **Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Growth Ambition Statement** sets out the area's priorities for achieving ambitious levels of inclusive growth and meeting the commitments of the Devolution Deal. The Statement has been adopted by the Combined Authority Board (November 2018) and is based upon the significant work of the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Independent Economic Review (CPIER).
- 3. The **Local Industrial Strategy** approved by the Combined Authority and Business Boards in March 2019 sets out the economic strategy for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough, taking a lead role in implementing the business growth, productivity, and skills elements of the Growth Ambition Statement as set out below:



The Local Industrial Strategy was co-produced with Government as part of the first wave of these strategies being developed to deliver the UK Industrial Strategy in local areas.

The Local Industrial Strategy is focussed around the five foundations of productivity established in the UK Industrial Strategy 2018, namely:

- People
- Ideas
- Business Environment
- Infrastructure
- Place

It is a core principle of the Local Industrial Strategy that the fifth foundation of place reflects the findings of the CPIER. In this area there will be economic strategies which respond to the three sub-economies identified in the region.

- Greater Cambridge
- Greater Peterborough
- The Fens

Investments will only be made if they can demonstrate that they will support the delivery of the Growth Ambition Statement and the Local

Industrial Strategy, and the more detailed place and sector strategies (where they are in place).

- 4. The **Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority Business Plan** sets out the authority's investment priorities. It is updated annually and presented to the Board for approval each January, alongside the Authority's budget and Medium-Term Financial Plan. The Combined Authority continues to develop its detailed strategies for key areas of activity including:
  - Housing Strategy
  - Local Industrial Strategy
  - Local Transport Plan
  - Non-statutory spatial plan
- 5. The Medium-Term Financial Plan forms the investment plan for the Combined Authority and allocates resources to deliver the next stages of these priority programmes.

This Business Plan and the Medium-Term Financial Plan sets out at a high level the transformational investments that the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority will commit resources to, subject to the detailed consideration and appraisal of project business cases. Some are project ideas at an early stage and might not be feasible, others are further advanced. The Business Plan and the Medium-Term Financial Plan are not intended to be an exhaustive list of activity as new opportunities will arise during the period, but it identifies the key activities that are transformational and will need investment during the plan period to unlock the opportunities they could bring. Prioritisation has been undertaken to ensure that our investment goes into projects that will unlock transformational anchor projects that will have a significant impact on growing the whole Cambridgeshire and Peterborough economy.

The Business Plan aligns with the approach to performance management which the Authority has already adopted and the Authority's quarterly performance reports enable members to monitor performance against the Business Plan priorities

The Combined Authority has progressed key investment decisions in a range of transport and infrastructure, skills, housing and economic development initiatives.

#### **Assurance Framework**

In November 2019, the Combined Authority Board and the Business Board agreed a revised joint Assurance Framework. The latest version of the Assurance Framework complies with the National Local Growth Assurance Framework and was approved by the Board in March 2021 following feedback and sign off from CLGU (Cities and Local Growth Unit) published in January 2019. The Assurance Framework sets out:

- (a) How the seven principles of public life shape the culture within the Combined Authority in undertaking its roles and responsibilities in relation to the use and administration of the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Investment, incorporating the Single Pot funding.
- (b) The respective roles and responsibilities of the Combined Authority, the Business Board and officers, in decision-making and ways of working.
- (c) The key processes for ensuring accountability, including public engagement, probity, transparency, legal compliance and value for money.
- (d) How potential investments to be funded through the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Medium Term Financial Plan incorporating the Single Pot, will be appraised, prioritised, approved, signed off and delivered.
- (e) The processes for oversight of projects, programmes and portfolios and how the progress and impacts of these investments will be monitored and evaluated.

# **Project Delivery**

In January 2021, the Authority approved an update to its monitoring and evaluation framework. The framework provides assurance to the Combined Authority Board and to Central Government through robust monitoring and evaluation arrangements for each of the commissioned projects. Monitoring and evaluation (M&E) is a critical component of an effective performance management regime. Monitoring supports the effective tracking of a scheme or series of policy interventions ensuring that intended outputs are being achieved. Evaluation quantifies and assesses outcomes, including how schemes were delivered and whether the investment generated had the intended impact and ultimately delivered value for money.

The Monitoring & Evaluation Framework incorporates the Local Growth Fund monitoring and evaluation plan. Being able to show the efficacy and impact of the Business Board's investments enables a positive case to be made to Government in discussions regarding the allocation and responsibility for future funding streams.

# **Decision Making**

All agendas and reports produced for meetings of the Combined Authority, its associated Committees and the Business Board are issued to members and published on the Authority's website in accordance with access to information requirements in the 2017 Order. All Combined Authority Board and Executive Committee meetings are held in public, whilst adhering to government guidance and legislation during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Following the ending of the legislation allowing for remote meetings, meetings are again held in person - but are run in accordance with public health guidelines.

A Forward Plan identifying strategic decisions that will be made by the Board over a four-month period is updated and presented to the Combined Authority Board at each meeting. It will also include all forthcoming key decisions which require at least 28 days' notice.

Notice of decisions are also published no more than two days after the meeting and are not implemented until five days after they are published to enable the Overview & Scrutiny Committee to exercise its right to call-in decisions.

# **Financial Management**

A key responsibility of the Combined Authority is determining, agreeing and monitoring appropriate budgets for it to be able to fulfil strategic objectives.

A budget framework has been agreed for setting the budget in future years which takes account of the process laid down in the Combined Authorities (Finance) Order 2017

In summary, the draft Budget shall be submitted to the Combined Authority Board for consideration and approval for consultation purposes before the end of December. The Board will agree the timetable for consultation and those to be consulted. The consultation period shall not be less than four weeks, and the consultees shall include Constituent Authorities, the Business Board (LEP) and the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

Before 1st February, having considered the draft Budget, the consultation responses, and any other relevant factors, the proposed budget for the following financial year, including the Mayor's budget, will be submitted to the Board for final approval. There is also a process for agreeing the Mayor's budget where no agreement can be reached.

Budget update reports are presented at each Combined Authority Board meeting to provide information on income and expenditure for the year to date against the approved budget and to provide an analysis of any variances between actuals and budget for both Revenue Funds and the Capital Programme.

While not in force for the year ended the 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021, the Combined Authority is required to adhere to the CIPFA Financial Management Code from April 2021. As such a review of the Authorities Financial Management arrangements against the requirements of the code was undertaken and the following key actions that will be addressed in 2021-22 were identified:

- A formal timeline for the creation of the Annual Governance Statement will be established.
- Regular budget holder and project manager training will be implemented to reinforce the responsibilities associated with those roles.
- The Authority will carry out a financial resilience assessment.
- Regular financial reporting to Corporate Management Team, Committees and Boards will include key balance sheet items.

# **Developing Capacity**

The member structure is well-defined and a permanent staffing structure is now in place. Staffing and resources levels are regularly checked to ensure that the Combined Authority can deliver.

#### **Internal Audit**

RSM Assurance Limited were appointed as the Combined Authority's new internal auditors in September 2020. RSM provide the Chief Internal Auditor function for the Combined Authority and presented the audit plan for approval to the Audit & Governance Committee in November 2020 and has provided the Committee with regular updates since then.

#### **External Audit**

Ernst & Young LLP has been appointed as the Authority's external auditors and has audited these accounts.

# **Risk Management**

The Authority's Audit and Governance Committee is responsible for overseeing the Authority's risk management strategy and corporate risk register. The Risk Strategy was adopted by the Combined Authority Board in January 2020 and will be updated in 2021/22 following a review by officers working with the internal auditors.

Corporate and project risks are identified, recorded and monitored by the Corporate Management Team and the Audit & Governance Committee, and are escalated to the Combined Authority Board where necessary.

# **Managing Performance**

Given the level of investment undertaken by the combined authority, it is vital that it follows robust programme management processes for its programmes and for collective consideration of outputs and outcomes. Alongside the monitoring and evaluation framework, a Performance Management process has also been developed, to monitor and report on programme delivery (time, quality, cost) and the outcomes and impact of projects/programmes. Regular papers are taken to Board meetings which report on the performance of the Combined Authority's projects. The analysis includes a 'delivery dashboard' which provides metrics showing progress being made against devolution deal commitments to deliver Prosperity (measured by Gross Value Added (GVA)), Housing and Jobs.

#### **Review of Effectiveness**

The Authority has responsibility for conducting an annual review of the effectiveness of its governance framework. This includes consideration of systems of internal control and arrangements for internal audit and assurance statement from key officers. This has focused on where we are now and where we want to be in the year ahead against the Good Governance Principles.

The Combined Authority currently has 6 subsidiary companies over which it has a significant level of control. Material trading activity of the subsidiaries only started in 2020-21 and, as such the governance arrangements of these companies has become increasingly important. This is an area of significant interest across the Local Authority sector given the high-profile issues that have come to light following Croydon Council's S114 notice and CIPFA will be publishing new guidance on governance of Local Authority Trading Companies (LATC) to address this. The Combined Authority will review its LATC governance arrangements once the guidance has been published, to ensure they are appropriate and effective.

The Chief Internal Auditor of a Local Authority is required annually to provide their opinion on the overall systems of internal control and their effectiveness.

#### The Annual Internal Audit Opinion

The annual internal audit opinion is based upon and limited to the work performed, on the adequacy and effectiveness of the organisation's risk management, control and governance processes.

For the 12 months ended 31 March 2021, the head of internal audit opinion for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority is as follows:

"The organisation has an adequate and effective framework for risk management, governance and internal control. However, our work has identified further enhancements to the framework of risk management, governance and internal control to ensure that it remains adequate and effective."

### "Factors and Findings which have informed our opinion

Our opinion has been informed by seven assurance reviews undertaken during 2020/21. One review concluded with minimal assurance, and agreed six high and four medium priority management actions. We also issued one partial assurance opinion for the Risk Management review.

Five further reviews were undertaken, four of these resulting in reasonable assurance being taken by the Authority for the following reviews:

- Impact on COVID-19 on Project Delivery
- Accounts Payable
- Appointments to Boards and Committees
- COVID-19 Capital Grants

In addition, our Follow Up review, conducted on a sample of the recommendations from the previous internal auditors concluded that the Authority had made **good progress** in implementing recommendations. We confirmed that seven recommendations had been fully implemented and two had been superseded. We did agree a management action in relation to the monitoring of management actions agreed, given that this was not formally in place at the time of our review.

#### We issued one audit where the Authority could take only partial assurance.

For this area, the Board could take partial assurance that the controls to manage these risks are suitably designed and consistently applied. However, action was needed to strengthen the control framework to manage the identified risks.

#### **Risk Management**

We noted that the Authority was yet to undertake detailed risk management training, specifically in ensuring risks are clear and mitigation plans and actions are specific, measurable, achievable, realistic and Time relevant (SMART). In addition, we noted the Authority does not capture evidence of the review and scrutiny of the Corporate Risk Register at an Executive Level and had not at the time of the review implemented a reporting framework for risk registers below the Corporate level. We further noted that risk escalation was at the discretion of risk owners and therefore could be subjective and inconsistent.

We also found that minimum frequencies for the review of risks have not been formally documented and noted that as the organisation takes positive steps towards its compliance with the new risk management strategy and processes, it would be equally important to link assurances to individual risks and controls.

Since issuing the final report we have held various meetings with Officers to discuss how CPCA could further develop the risk management control framework and strategy whilst satisfying the issues identified through our review.

We issued one audit where the Authority could take only minimal assurance.

#### **IT Control Framework Review**

Overall, the Combined Authority is at the early stages with respect to the development and operation of an overarching IT control framework. We were advised by the authority's IT provider that some controls surrounding IT are in place. Further work was however required to address some significant control weaknesses where improvements were required, in particular regarding IT management experience (including IT contract management) within the Combined Authority, network access and security, patch management, incident response and backups.

The Combined Authority is being supported by an external consultancy provider to undertake a number of management actions to address the situation, including to put in place a robust suite of IT policies and the implementation of systems to protect its network

# Impact of Covid-19 on the CPCA's Governance Arrangements

While the COVID-19 pandemic has caused significant disruption across the Country, the Combined Authority has maintained its governance systems in line with business as usual - the same governance processes have operated throughout including authorisation limits, required sign

off by statutory officers and reporting to Boards. Prior to the enactment of legislation which formally allowed for local authority meetings to take place virtually, the CPCA ran meetings in public, which enabled relevant matters appropriate to the Mayoral general power to be made in a public setting, and for other matters to be debated. This balanced the need to maintain a continuity of business, with the need to maintain transparency and inclusion in decision making.

In line with legal requirements, from June 2021, the Combined Authority's meetings are once again being held in-person however live-streaming technology is being utilised both to lower the risk of COVID transmission and to enhance accessibility.

During 2020/21, RSM conducted a review of project delivery arrangements at the Combined Authority in relation to the robustness of project approvals and monitoring during COVID-19 (COVID). The report found that "the Board can take reasonable assurance that the controls upon which the organisation relies to manage this area are suitably designed and consistently applied.

#### Conclusion

The Combined Authority recognises its responsibilities for ensuring that its business is conducted in accordance with the law and proper standards and that public money is safeguarded and properly accounted for and used economically, efficiently and effectively, alongside a duty to make arrangements to secure continuous improvement in the way in which its functions are exercised.

The Authority has made good progress during 2020/21 and we are committed to making continued improvements during 2021/22.

#### Certification

Date: 17/12/2021

As Mayor and Chief Executive Officers, we have been advised on the implications of the results of the review of the effectiveness of the Combined Authority's governance framework, by the Audit and Governance Committee.

The Annual Governance Statement was approved by the Audit Committee on the 17<sup>th</sup> December 2021.

Our overall assessment is that the Annual Governance Statement is a balanced reflection of the governance environment and that an adequate framework exists within the Combined Authority to ensure effective internal control is maintained. We are also satisfied that there are appropriate plans in place to address any significant governance issues and will monitor their implementation and operations as part of our next annual review.

To the best of our knowledge, the governance arrangements as defined within the Authority's Local Code of Corporate Governance have continued to operate effectively.

Date: 17/12/2021

Signed: Jr Mit Jelini	Signed:
Dr Nik Johnson, Mayor of Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority	Eileen Milner, Chief Executive Officer of Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority