

3 June 2021

[REDACTED]

request-744027-d0dd1345@whatdotheyknow.com

Dear [REDACTED]

Freedom of Information Act 2000 - Request Reference CA118

With reference to your request received on 2 April 2021 reference CA118 please find the response provided below. Please accept our apologies for the delay in responding.

Question a):

Please can you confirm whether the CPCA holds any information produced since the combined authority's establishment which relates to the matters of:

a) A comparison of the powers held by the CPCA and the powers held by other combined authorities in England.

Answer a):

The information requested is exempt from disclosure by virtue of Sections 22 and 36 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Section 22 – Information intended for future publication

The information requested is exempt from disclosure under Section 22 of the Freedom of Information Act because at the time of your request the document is a draft.

Any changes to Combined Authority's powers would require a clear proposal to the Combined Authority Board in the form of a public report, and a consultation process among the CPCA's constituent authorities. That report would utilise any draft reports which include a comparative analysis of the powers of the CPCA and other combined authorities.

Accordingly, such information would be published at that time.

All Board and Committee agendas and reports are published on the CPCA website and can be found [CMIS > Meetings](#)

Section 36 - Prejudice to the effective conduct of public affairs

The information requested is exempt from disclosure by virtue of Section 36(2)(b) and (c). It is the Qualified Person's opinion that the exemption is engaged and that the information should not be disclosed.

Section 36(2)(b) and (c) states:

(2) Information to which this section applies is exempt information if, in the reasonable opinion of a qualified person, disclosure of the information under this Act—

(b) would, or would be likely to, inhibit—

(i) the free and frank provision of advice, or

(ii) the free and frank exchange of views for the purposes of deliberation,

(c) would otherwise prejudice, or would be likely otherwise to prejudice, the effective conduct of public affairs

The Combined Authority's Qualified Person has reviewed the request and considered the public interest test.

The imperative of providing a forum for officials and members of the CPCA to consider the question of the powers of the CPCA in a safe environment prior to the adopting of a stance and policy on the matters outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information as disclosure would potential inhibit the free and frank exchange of views in the future and potentially lead to reticence in providing such views in the future.

Question b)

b) What the costs and/or benefits would be of the CPCA holding any powers which are currently exercised by the UK government and parliament, or agencies thereof, with respect to Cambridgeshire and Peterborough.

Answer b)

The Combined Authority does not hold this information.

Question c)

c) What the costs and/or benefits would be of the CPCA holding any powers which are currently exercised by Cambridgeshire County Council, the city and district councils within Cambridgeshire, and/or Peterborough City Council.

Answer c)

The Combined Authority does not hold this information.

Question d)

d) Whether to promote the case for the CPCA's gaining additional powers.

Answer d)

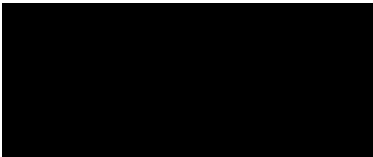
The Combined Authority does not hold this information.

I hope this information is helpful but if you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request and wish to make a complaint or request a review, you should write to us via our contact us email address – contactus@cambridgeshirepeterborough-ca.gov.uk or write a letter to Complaints, Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority, the Mayor's Office, 72 Market Street, Ely, Cambs CB7 4LS within 40 days of the date of this e-mail.

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF, or via their website: <https://ico.org.uk/>

Generally, the ICO will not undertake a review or make a decision on a request until the internal review process has been completed.

Yours sincerely

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Governance Assistant