

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

9 July 2021

Dear [REDACTED]

**Freedom of Information Act 2000 - Request for information  
Reference CA124**

With reference to your request for information received on 18 June 2021 reference CA124 please find the response provided below.

*I sent the request for information below via Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority's online contact form on 21 April 2021 and have not yet received a response. I am therefore sending it again as a Freedom of Information Act request: Enquiry re: Combined Authority business, expenditure and IT matters Could you please advise what action Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority has taken since its inception, or is currently underway or has planned, in the following areas:*

**Question 1**

Spend analysis, looking at the patterns of expenditure picked up by the Combined Authority, helping the Board and senior staff understand the main aspects of non-pay expenditure and potential savings targets or other efficiencies

**Answer**

*The majority of the Combined Authority's expenditure is in the payment of grants and to provide funding to support constituent councils and other partners in the delivery of capital projects for which we are not the main contracting body. Hence detailed spend analysis and looking for patterns of expenditure may have limited use for identifying potential savings or in the setting of efficiency targets.*

**Question 2**

Collaborative expenditure, combining the financial position and potential market influence of the Combined Authority and its constituent local authorities

**Answer**

*We have in the past jointly procured some services with constituent councils e.g. insurance under an overarching procurement exercise.*

**Question 3**

Benchmarking costs

**Answer**

*There are no current plans to do this although we do follow strict procurement procedures to ensure that we test the market and maximise value for money in the purchase of goods and services including through public sector frameworks.*

**Question 4**

Improving use of funds through spend optimisation, efficiency improvements and business process change

**Answer**

*As a young organisation, we continue to develop and improve business processes as we grow and evolve.*

**Question 5**

Mapping of local expenditure and socially-directed expenditure

**Answer**

*The Combined Authority commissioned an evidence-based independent economic review of Cambridgeshire and Peterborough, this forms the basis of the Combined Authority's strategies for present and future priorities.*

**Question 6**

Cyber security advice, resilience and testing

**Answer**

*We have recently commissioned an external review of all aspects of our IT systems and controls to ensure that controls, processes and security measures are appropriate and fit for purpose now and for the future.*

**Question 7**

Digital transformation in service delivery and support

**Answer**

*This will be informed by the results of our ongoing IT review – per above*

**Question 8**

Consolidation of IT systems adopted from constituent local authorities

**Answer**

*This will be informed by the results of our ongoing IT review – per above*

**Question 9**

Development and implementation of an IT strategy

**Answer**

*This will be informed by the results of our ongoing IT review – per above*

**Question 10**

Could you also advise what procurement routes or framework agreements you would be likely to use in procuring external support for any of the above, and provide a named contact (or contacts) to whom further specific enquiries could be directed.

**Answer**

The procurement route taken depends on the nature and value of the spend. For consultancy services, an appropriate CCS framework is generally used; however, where the requirement cannot be met through this route and is of a regulated value, then this is advertised in accordance with the Public Contract Regulations. If below the threshold, the requirement is procured in accordance with the Combined Authority's constitution.

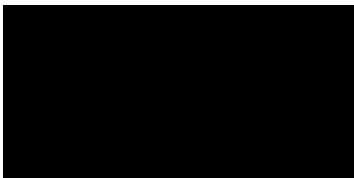
Heidi Parker is Procurement and Contracting Manager. Her contact details are:  
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I hope this information is helpful but if you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request and wish to make a complaint or request a review, you should write to us via our contact us email address – [contactus@cambridgeshirepeterborough-ca.gov.uk](mailto: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



Governance Assistant



The Mayor's Office  
72 Market Street  
Ely  
Cambs  
CB7 4LS

