



Any key decision/s set below will come into force and may be implemented after 5.00pm on the fifth clear working day after publication of the decision, unless they are called-in [see note on call in below], with the exception of any key decision on a matter dealt with under the special urgency provisions set out in the Constitution which may be implemented immediately.

1 Apologies for Absence

Apologies received from Cllr Wilson, substituted by Cllr Whelan, Cllr Hodgson-Jones, Cllr Christy substituted by temporary substitute Cllr Nawaz

2 Declaration of Interests

There were no declaration of interests made.

3 Chair's Announcements

The Chair made the following announcements:

- 1) Welcome to new member Cllr Wiggin the representative from Peterborough City Council.
- 2) The Chair encouraged all members to attend the A&G development sessions.
- 3) External Audit - In response to the challenges facing local government auditors nationally, the Minister of State for Local Government and English Devolution presented a statement to Parliament on the 30th July 2024 setting out the Government's intent to implementing a backstop date for audits of Local Government accounts for the 2022/23 financial year of the 13th December 2024. As a result we will need to consider that year's accounts before the end of November and, under the work programme item, the committee will be asked to consider moving our December meeting to the 28th November.
- 4) 4) Code of Corporate Governance moved to November's meeting

4 Minutes of the previous meeting

The minutes of the meeting on 18th July 2024 were approved as an accurate record.
The Action Log was noted by the Committee.

5 Improvement Plan Report

The Committee RESOLVED to:

- a) Note the contents of the letter from Max Soule, Deputy Director, Local Government Intervention and Stewardship, Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government
- b) Recognise the progress that has been made and the work undertaken by staff, Elected Members, partners and agencies to address the areas of identified improvement
- c) Note the close down arrangements for the current improvement programme (phase 3)
- d) Note the proposed revised future role for the Independent Improvement Board

6 Internal Audit Action Tracker

The Committee RESOLVED to:

To note and endorse progress on the implementation of internal audit action.

7 Constitution Update - Procurement

The Committee RESOLVED to recommend to the Combined Authority Board to approve the changes to the Contract procedure Rules (CPR's) within the constitution which is to be discussed and approved at Board on 16th of October 2024 and will become effective when the new legislation is implemented.

8 Internal Audit - Progress report

The Committee RESOLVED to note the report.

9 Independent Member Recruitment

The Committee RESOLVED to:

- a) Recommend to the CPCA Board that a new independent person is appointed to sit on Audit Committee for a period of four years which may be renewed up to a maximum of one further term (i.e. total maximum 8 years).
- b) Recommend that the CPCA Board agrees to delegate to the Executive Director of Resources and the Monitoring Officer, in consultation with the Chair of the Audit and Governance Committee, authority to finalise the draft role description, skills, competencies and person specification attached as Appendix 1 and to approve the advert.
- c) Recommend to the CPCA Board that the recruitment of the new Independent Member be led by a panel consisting of the Chairman of the Audit and Governance Committee and three members of the three main political parties of the committee supported by the Executive Director of Resources and the Monitoring Officer. Nominations for members of the committee be provided.
- d) Following the recruitment process, a report to formally appoint the Independent Person will be presented to a future CPCA Board meeting

10 Work Programme

The Committee RESOLVED to:

- a) Approve the work programme
- b) Amend the work programme so that the December meeting be rescheduled to 28th November.

11 Exclusion of the Press and Public

It was resolved that the press and public be excluded from the meeting on the grounds that the next report contains exempt information under Part 1 of Schedule 12A the Local Government Act 1972, as amended, and that it would not be in the public interest for this information to be disclosed. The public interest in maintaining the exemption must be deemed to outweigh the public interest in its publication.

12 Corporate Risk Register

The Committee RESOLVED to:

- a) *To endorse the Corporate Risk Register and Heatmap*
- b) *To undertake a deep dive into Cyber Security risk*
- c) *To note that the annual risk appetite statement exercise has taken place*

13 Date of Next Meeting

15th October 10am – Development Session (virtual)

8th November at 10am at CPCA Meeting Room HDC.

Notes:

- a) Statements in **bold type** indicate additional resolutions made at the meeting.
- b) Five Members of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee may call-in a key decision of the Mayor, the Combined Authority Board or an Officer for scrutiny by notifying the Monitoring Officer, except for any key decision on a matter dealt with under the special urgency provisions set out in the Constitution which may be implemented immediately.