



Combined Authority Board

5 June 2024 - Ordinary Meeting

Title:	Appointment to outside bodies
Report of:	Edwina Adefehinti, Director Legal and Governance and Monitoring Officer
Lead Member:	Cllr Edna Murphy- Governance
Public Report:	Yes
Key Decision:	No
Voting Arrangements:	Majority

Recommendations:

A	That Board decides which Member(s) is nominated and which member is appointed to the Outside Bodies detailed in the report.
B	That members appointed to external bodies provide updates to the CPCA Board at intervals agreed by the CPCA Board.

Strategic Objective(s):

The report improves the CPCA's corporate governance framework and helps to protect the interests of the CPCA and promote best value.

1. Purpose

1.1	To appoint representatives to outside bodies
1.2	To be made aware of decision making in the outside bodies appointed to, all members appointed to outside bodies will keep the CPCA Board informed of decision making, relevant issues and general updates.

2. Proposal

2.1	To appoint the Mayor as the CPCA representative on the Cambridge Growth Company Advisory Council
2.2	To appoint a CPCA Board member to represent on the Wisbech Town
2.3	To require that members appointed to outside bodies provide a report to the CPCA Board at regular intervals, the period which will be agreed by the CPCA Board.

3. Background

3.1 Making appointments to outside bodies is the responsibility of the CPCA Board:

An outside body

This is either an incorporated or an unincorporated body which is not part of the CPCA's own governance structure but whose work helps in some way towards fulfilling the CPCA's own responsibilities and/or improving community life in the area of Cambridgeshire & Peterborough.

The term embraces a diverse range of organisational purposes and structures. Outside bodies are categorised as either strategic, locality / ward-based or general in nature.

Members appointed by the CPCA Board to an outside body will, when sitting on that body, often have duties to the organisation which take precedence over their duties to the CPCA. This will depend on the type of organisation on which they serve.

Members will therefore wish to consider at any time when it appears that the organisation's interests may conflict with the CPCA's interests, whether that conflict prevents them from taking part in decision-making either at the organisation's meeting or at the CPCA's meeting. In such circumstances the Member should seek advice from the Monitoring Officer.

3.2 **WISBECH TOWN BOARD**

The Board is made up of several key partners across Wisbech, Fenland and the Wider Cambridgeshire area. With a focus on local knowledge and experience at the heart of the Board, the Board is made up of a private sector Chair, local political leaders, local community leaders and local business leaders.

This group will be working together to achieve the following aims:

- To work together to shape and manage the development of a ten-year, long-term plan for the town.
- To work together to deliver a three-year delivery plan of projects (in the short term) for the town.
- To allocate and deliver projects in line with the Government guidance to invest £20,000,000 into the town of Wisbech.
- To explore new ways of working to maximise the impact of resource deployment within core organisational resources to address the priorities for the communities we support.
- To seek to add social value to the work we all deliver by considering wider socioeconomic, environmental and health impacts through our normal service and project delivery work.
- To work together to deliver a joined up approach towards strategic interventions which improve the long-term opportunities and fortunes of our communities.
- To provide support and advice to the accountable body (Fenland District Council) in developing and governing a Long Term Plan For Towns programme in line with the Government (DLUHC) prospectus.

Government guidance on Town Board membership

"Town Board membership

Having considered whether there is a suitable existing Board that can be utilised, or that it is necessary to establish a new Town Board, the chair should engage with the local authority to consider whether further appointments are necessary to the Town Board. Similarly, the chair may choose to appoint a deputy – although this is not a requirement.

As with appointing the chair, it is worth considering the length of membership when inviting members onto the Board, and whether the Board make-up needs to change over the duration of its lifetime. The local authority, or an alternative organisation such as a community group if that is agreed between the chair and local authority, should act as secretariat to the Town Board.

Outside of the requirements around the inclusion of certain elected representatives and a senior representative from the police, this guidance is wholly non-prescriptive and membership will vary depending on the local context:

1. Parliamentary representatives

The relevant local MPs, for example, those MPs whose constituencies sit within the boundary of the town must sit on the Town Board. Councils in Scotland and Wales may wish to invite the local MSP or MS.

2. Local councillors

In areas where there are two tiers of local authorities, there should be one councillor from each tier of local government. In unitary authorities, there should be 2 councillors from the authority. Where relevant for the town, the chair may wish to invite parish, town, or community councillors, noting that total numbers of elected representatives should be limited to promote community leadership.

3. A senior representative from the police

Town Boards must have a senior representative from the police. In England and Wales, it is expected that this will be the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC), though, subject to the agreement of the chair, a local senior representative from the police can act as an alternative. In Scotland, the chair may wish to invite a senior police officer. Where combined authority mayors exercise PCC functions, it is expected that the Mayor or their Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime should be the representative, though, subject to agreement with the chair, a local senior representative from the police can act as an alternative. Should Town Boards feel that they require further contribution from the police, noting particularly the different skills and input that could be provided by an operational representative, then it is within their discretion to invite whomever they deem appropriate to sit on the Board.

Other membership should be tailored to local context and is at the chair's discretion, but might comprise:

4. Community partners, such as:

- community groups
- faith groups
- local charities
- neighbourhood forums
- youth groups
- the local Council for Voluntary Service (CVS) or Third Sector Interface (TSI) in Scotland

5. Local businesses and social enterprises, such as:

- the chair or board members for the Business Improvement District (BID) where these exist
- key local employers or investors in the town

Community and smaller businesses have been shown to be able to support regeneration and improve investment at a local level, and property owners have a major stake in how towns are repurposed.

6. Cultural, arts, heritage and sporting organisations, such as:

- local sports club directors
- local heritage groups

7. Public agencies and anchor institutions, such as:

- local schools, higher education and further education institutions
- relevant government agencies for that area, for example Integrated Care Boards or Community Planning Partnerships in Scotland

Town Boards should consider the size of membership and could convene smaller working groups to facilitate wider engagement in the themes of the Long-Term Plan for Towns. DLUHC will work with Town Boards, supported by local authorities, with contracting and commercial advice to ensure value for money, based on best practice from previous Levelling Up Funds. In the first instance, local authorities should get in touch with their existing area team leads.”

3.2

Cambridge Growth Company Advisory Council

The Cambridge Development Group is a growth company established as a government team to advise on and drive forward the government's vision for Cambridge. The team is made up of policy professionals, surveyors, town planners, economists and development specialists, drawing on the

	<p>expertise of Homes England and the Department of Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC). The Group's work to-date has involved working with local partners to inform and support the delivery of the government's vision for Cambridge as set out at Spring Budget.</p> <p>The Advisory Council members will provide views and perspective to the Growth Company Board on a range of issues relevant to the activities of the Growth Company for example transport, water, housing, business and innovation , finance and viability and community/wellbeing.</p> <p>In line with the remit of the Cambridge Growth Company, the Cambridge Development group Chair invite the Mayor to join the Advisory Council.</p>
3.3	<p>Alternative options:</p> <p>Not to appoint. This option would not provide best value to the CPCA and its residents.</p>

4. Appendices

4.1	Appendix A. Advisory Council - Cambridge Growth Company (Homes England) - Terms of Reference
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5. Implications

Financial Implications	
5.1	None
Legal Implications	
5.2	<p>Representation on outside bodies helps towards fulfilling the CPCA's own responsibilities and priorities and improving community life in its area.</p> <p>Constitution</p> <p>The CPCA Board has the reserved function of appointing members to committees.</p>
Public Health Implications	
5.3	None
Environmental & Climate Change Implications	
5.4	None
Other Significant Implications	
5.5	None
Background Papers	
5.6	Guidance- Long-Term Plan for Towns: guidance for local authorities and Town Boards.