

Public Question for the GCP Assembly meeting
Wednesday 19th July 2017

Question relates to Agenda Item 14 –
Improving Greater Cambridge Partnership Governance

We are presenting today two items on behalf of residents and small businesses across Greater Cambridge together:

Appendix A - letter signed by over fifty groups and
Appendix B – list of proposals for procedural changes.

The groups who have signed the letter believe the schemes on today's agenda illustrate a lack of strategic thinking and long term vision for Cambridge and the region.

While they welcome the suggestion that **stakeholder engagement** is broadened and strengthened (*referenced at least four times in Ms Sheridan's report: items 1, 10, 11 and 13a*), they are concerned that the report on governance does not address key concerns about community representation and input from the start of all projects – they want to be equal partners.

The letter (Appendix A) reflects a sense of disempowerment by local people who feel they are not fairly represented in the decision making process and that their quality of life and environmental and heritage concerns are being ignored. The groups that have signed the letter are calling for a review of the vision, evidence base and briefs for the spending of public money in a responsible way.

Appendix B is a document that has been prepared by a cross-section of Resident Association Chairs outlining the procedural changes that need to take place if people are to have confidence in the way public money is being spent in the programme.

Question:

Will the Assembly today agree a resolution that residents will be represented on the Board and Assembly and involved in all future projects from inception as equal partners and that they will be involved as equal partners in taking forward existing projects, and that you will recommend that the Executive Board takes steps to implement the proposals we have made ?

Wendy Blythe
Chair, FeCRA

Bev Edwards
Chair, Barton Parish Council

2 Attachments:

Appendix A - letter signed by over fifty groups and
Appendix B – list of proposals for procedural changes.