

Greater Cambridge Partnership Executive Board

Wednesday 28th September 2022
2:00 p.m. – 5:35 p.m.

Set out below is a summary of the decisions taken at the meeting. The wording used does not necessarily reflect the actual wording that will appear in the formal minutes of the meeting.

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Bridget Smith (substituted by Councillor Brian Milnes).

2. Declarations of Interest

Andy Neely declared a non-statutory disclosable interest in relation to the Greater Cambridge Greenways item (agenda item 10), as a resident near to Waterbeach.

Councillor Dave Baigent declared a general non-statutory disclosable interest as a member of the Cambridge Cycling Campaign (Camcycle).

3. Minutes

The minutes of the previous Executive Board meeting, held on 30th June 2022, were agreed as a correct record, and were signed by the Chairperson.

4. Membership

The Executive Board resolved to:

- (a) Confirm the appointment of Andy Williams as the Business Board representative on the Executive Board;
- (b) Confirm the appointment of Alex Plant as the Business Board substitute member;
- (c) Confirm the appointment of Andy Neely as the University of Cambridge representative on the Executive Board; and
- (d) Confirm the appointment of Kamal Munir as the University of Cambridge substitute member.

5. Public Questions

Fifteen public questions had been accepted by the Chairperson, who had agreed that the questions would be received at the start of the relevant agenda item.

6. Feedback from the Joint Assembly

The Executive Board received a report from the Chairperson of the Greater Cambridge Partnership Joint Assembly, Councillor Tim Bick, which summarised the discussions from the Joint Assembly meeting held on 8th September 2022.

7. Public Transport and City Access Strategy

The Executive Board resolved to:

- (a) Note the feedback from the 2021 Making Connections consultation, the focus groups and workshop with Citizens' Assembly members; and
- (b) Agree a public consultation on a proposed package of measures to improve public transport services and active travel and introduce a Sustainable Travel Zone comprising a road user charging scheme, as set out in section 7 of the report.

8. Better Public Transport: Cambourne to Cambridge Project

The Executive Board resolved to:

- (a) Note the outcome of the Environmental Impact Assessment consultation, and a non-technical summary of the Environmental Statement and its contents;
- (b) Note that the report will recommend a Preferred Route which differs slightly from that approved at Outline Business Case stage and to approve four more specific changes which reflect stakeholder concerns:
 - The alignment has been amended to avoid the Waterworks site as a result of a stakeholder request regarding the ecological value of the site and surrounding trees. This has been accommodated into the design.
 - The alignment through Hardwick has been amended to an on-road solution to reflect local concerns with regards to the loss of trees between St Neots Road and the A428. The solution proposed would use a bus gate just to the west of Long Road to prevent through traffic on St Neots Road and thereby ensuring that buses have a high level of priority. The Greater Cambridge Partnership (GCP) will continue to explore modifications to the bus gate operation to minimise the impact upon the local community. The GCP has already committed to a noise barrier along the A428 and will work to enhance the area of trees no longer required for the route alignment.
 - There is an existing, but poorly used, Bridleway along the east side of the M11 where Cambourne to Cambridge (C2C) would cross. In order to improve connectivity to that Bridleway, which provides linkage to the Comberton Greenway, it will be diverted to a junction with the C2C where

the Non-Motorised User (NMU) route along the service road can be accessed.

- During previous consultations a request was made by Dry Drayton Parish Council that GCP should provide an NMU connection from the Scotland Farm Park and Ride site to Dry Drayton. GCP noted this request and prepared a scheme which was presented at the recent public consultation. There was opposition to this scheme from local stakeholders who prefer a solution which takes more private land and has a greater impact on the village. The solution preferred locally would be difficult to justify under the Transport and Works Order for the C2C scheme which only provides Compulsory Purchase Order powers off the main route in order to mitigate environmental impacts or to provide facilities such as drainage for the main route. As such it is recommended that the Dry Drayton link is developed further in consultation with the Parish Council with a view to inclusion in a future programme; and
- (c) Approve a formal request to Cambridgeshire County Council to approve submission of a Transport and Works Order with the GCP working closely with Cambridgeshire County Council as the highways authority.

9. Better Public Transport: Cambridge Eastern Access Project

The Executive Board resolved to:

- (a) Approve the Outline Business Case for Newmarket Road Phase A;
- (b) Note the preference for option P1 for the Park and Ride site, subject to production of an Outline Business Case and associated consultation; and
- (c) Note scheme designs which will be subject to further development and future planned consultation on both the Newmarket Road Phase A and the Park & Ride proposals.

10. Greater Cambridge Greenways

The Executive Board resolved to:

- (a) Approve the Greenways Programme Outline Business Case;
- (b) Approve the Greenways Wayfinding Strategy, including approval to undertake a public poll on the two potential concept designs;
- (c) Approve the Outline Delivery Plan, including the identified early works in 2022 – 2023; and
- (d) Approve the next steps on the Waterbeach Greenway.

11. Quarterly Progress Report

The Executive Board resolved to:

- (a) Endorse the proposal to increase the GCP's Skills Service provision by £290k, across the next three years (detail in Appendix 2 of the report); and
- (b) Note the updated Cambridge Biomedical Campus Transport Needs Study.

12. Date of Future Meetings

The Executive Board noted that the next meeting was scheduled to be held on Thursday 15th December 2022.