

# CGC Advisory Council Meeting Minutes & Actions

|         |                               |                                                    |    |
|---------|-------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|----|
| Date    | 27 January 2026               |                                                    |    |
| Time    | 14:00-16:00                   |                                                    |    |
| Members | Peter Freeman CBE (Chair)     | Chair, Cambridge Growth Company                    | PF |
|         | Cllr Bridget Smith            | Leader South Cambridgeshire District Council       | BS |
|         | Cllr Cameron Holloway         | Leader of Cambridge City Council                   | CH |
|         | Cllr Lucy Nethsingha          | Leader of Cambridgeshire County Council            | LN |
|         | Paul Bristow (online)         | Mayor, Cambridgeshire and Peterborough             | PB |
|         | Dr Paul Leinster CBE          | Chair, Cambridge Water Scarcity Group              | PL |
|         | Baroness Sally Morgan         | Baroness Morgan of Huyton                          | SM |
|         | Prof. Sir John Aston (online) | Pro-vice-Chancellor Research, Cambridge University | JA |

Minutes

ACTION

**1. Previous AC Minutes**

1.1. The Advisory Council agreed on the minutes of the previous meeting.

1.2. **ACTION:** CGC to publish minutes from October AC Meeting.

**CGC**

**2. CGC evidence base: joint presentation from Buro Happold and Prior & Partners**

2.1. Leonie Baker and Simon Mattinson joined to present the proposed methodology used to underpin emerging work on economic growth scenarios and good growth principles, and the proposed approach for the next phases of work.

2.2. The Advisory Council reflected on the overview of work to date, and the need to demonstrate action to address infrastructure issues heightened by current growth, specifically in relation to water and transport, as well as planning additional infrastructure to support future levels of economic growth. It was agreed that a paper setting out key water issues would be considered at April's meeting.

2.3. **ACTION:** PL to bring a paper on water to the next meeting of the Advisory Council

**PL**

2.3 **ACTION:** Judith Barker and Simon Mattinson to meet with CGC to discuss methodology in relation to CPCA's work on the region's spatial development strategy

**JB & SM**

**3. MHCLG-led public consultation on a potential Development Corporation**

3.1. Eleanor Riley (ER) provided an overview of the proposed eight-week public consultation on a centrally led Development Corporation for Cambridge which was announced in October. It is anticipated that this will go live in early February and will close at the start of the formal pre-election period for the May 2026 local council elections.

3.2. The consultation will seek views from residents, businesses, and local authorities on the case for setting up a development corporation and will cover four areas: the development corporation's proposed activities; its geographical boundary; its suite of powers; and the proposed approach to local democratic involvement.

3.3. The importance of this MHCLG-led consultation was stressed as an opportunity for local people to have their say. PF reasserted his desire that, pending the outcome of the consultation, any work carried out by CGC or a resulting Dev Co would seek to strengthen the existing quality placemaking in the area, address issues affecting local people (including water and transport) and achieve greater economic growth, delivered inclusively and sensitively.

3.4. Several practical issues surrounding this consultation were discussed, including the importance of MHCLG-led engagement during the consultation period, as well as the role which CGC could play in helping government to raise awareness.

**4. AOB**

- 4.1. A brief update on the recruitment process for CGC CEO was provided. It was shared that, as previously agreed, a new AC member specialising in transport would join AC and would attend the next meeting, currently scheduled for 22nd April 2026.

Unapproved