

Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority:
Membership and Other Appointments

Meeting: Council

Date: 21 May 2026

Author: Chief Executive

1.0 Issue

1.1 This report requests the Council to make appointments to the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority for the municipal year 2026/27.

2.0 Recommendations

2.1 Members are requested to make the following appointments/nominations to the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority for the municipal year 2026/27:

- (a) appoint the Leader of Council to act as the Council's appointee to the Combined Authority and one substitute member;
- (b) nominate two members (one from the Liberal Democrat party and one from the Conservative party) to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, and two substitute members from the same political parties as those appointed;
- (c) nominate one member from the Liberal Democrat party to the Audit and Governance Committee and one substitute member from the same political party.

2.2 That the Chief Executive be authorised to make any amendments to the appointments to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and the Audit and Governance Committee in consultation with the Political Group Leaders, if the political balance is amended by the Combined Authority between now and the next Council meeting.

3.0 Background

3.1 In accordance with the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority Order 2017, each Constituent Council must appoint one of its elected members and a substitute member to the Combined Authority. Each Council made these appointments at its respective Council meeting in May 2017 for the 2017/18 municipal year and is requested to do so for each subsequent municipal year. The Council is now asked to appoint members and substitute members for the municipal year 2026/27.

Non-Executive Committees

3.2 The Combined Authorities (Overview and Scrutiny Committees, Access to Information and Audit Committees) Order 2016 requires the Combined Authority to establish an Overview and Scrutiny Committee and an Audit Committee. The Order sets out the rules for membership. The membership of the Overview and Scrutiny and the Audit Committees as a whole should reflect so far as reasonably practicable the balance of political parties of the constituent councils when taken together. The balance is based on membership of political parties, not political groups, on constituent councils across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough.

3.3 On 7 May 2026, there were elections at Peterborough City Council, South Cambridgeshire District Council, Huntingdonshire District Council and Cambridge City Council. Following the elections and other recent political changes at the constituent authorities, the Combined

Authority has reviewed the political balance on constituent councils and has requested constituent councils to make the following appointments to these committees.

Overview and Scrutiny Committee

- 3.4 The Combined Authority agreed that to ensure an equitable representation across each constituent authority, two members from each council should be appointed to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, representing a total membership of fourteen members.
- 3.5 The implications of applying political proportionality to a fourteen-member Overview and Scrutiny Committee are detailed in Appendix 1.
- 3.6 The Council is required to nominate two members (one from the Liberal Democrat party and one from the Conservative party) to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee for the municipal year 2026/27 based on the political balance set out in Appendix 1.

Audit and Governance Committee

- 3.7 The Combined Authority agreed to establish an Audit and Governance Committee consisting of seven constituent members: one member from each constituent council.
- 3.8 The implications of applying political proportionality to a seven-member Audit and Governance Committee are detailed in Appendix 2. The Council is required to nominate one member from the Liberal Democrat party to sit on the Audit and Governance Committee for the municipal year 2026/27 based on the political balance set out in Appendix 2.

Substitute members

- 3.9 The Combined Authority has agreed that substitute members should be appointed for each position on the Audit and Governance Committee and the Overview and Scrutiny Committee. Any substitute members should come from the same party as the Member they are substituting for to maintain political balance.
- 3.10 For the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, if constituent councils have appointed members from the same political parties, those Councils might only wish to appoint one substitute rather than two. The quorum set down in legislation is two-thirds of the total membership. Therefore, it is preferable to appoint two members in case both are absent from a meeting and need to be substituted.

Conclusion

- 3.11 All appointments and nominations made by Constituent Councils will be reported to the Combined Authority's Annual Meeting on 3 June 2026.
- 3.12 The political balance calculations in the Appendices are based on up-to-date statistics given by Constituent Councils and take account of the outcome of the local elections that took place on 7 May 2026. However, there may be last-minute changes in the lead up to the Constituent Councils' annual meetings and the Combined Authority's annual meeting on 3 June 2026.
- 3.13 If there are consequential changes to the overall political balance, the Combined Authority may need to review the membership and the allocation of seats to political parties on the above committees. The Monitoring Officer will advise constituent councils if any subsequent changes have been necessary, and whether any changes need to be made to their nominations.
- 3.14 If there is no provision in the Constituent Council's standing orders, the Council may wish to consider giving delegated powers for the Chief Executive to approve any consequential changes to these appointments in consultation with the relevant Party Group leaders.

4.0 Financial Implications/ Quality Impact Assessment

4.1 Following the decision made by the Combined Authority Board in June 2025, members of the Overview and Scrutiny and Audit and Governance Committees now receive an allowance from the Combined Authority.

5.0 Legal Implications

5.1 These are set out in the report. The Combined Authorities (Overview and Scrutiny Committees, Access to Information and Audit Committees) Order 2016 requires a combined authority to ensure that the members of the committee taken reflect, so far as reasonably practicable, the balance of political parties for the time being prevailing among members of the constituent councils when taken together.

6.0 Appendices

6.1 Appendix 1 – Overview and Scrutiny Committee political balance calculations.

6.2 Appendix 2 – Audit and Governance Committee political balance calculations

6.3 Appendix 3 – Combined Authority Membership 2026/27 – East District Council

6.3 Accessible versions of the appendices are available on request from Democratic.Services@cambridgeshirepeterborough-ca.gov.uk

7. Background Documents

7.1 CPCA - Statutory Committee Political Proportionality Explanation – May 2026

**Overview and Scrutiny Committee of Fourteen
POLITICAL BALANCE ACROSS THE COUNTY as at 12 May 2026**

	Total	Liberal Democrat	% of total	Conservative	% of total	Labour	% of total	Green Party	% of total	Peterborough First	% of total	Reform	% of total	Advance UK	% of total	Your Party	% of total	Z Total not counted	Total Counted	Entitlement
CAMBRIDGESHIRE COUNTY	2	32	55.2	10	17.2	5	8.6	3	5.2	0	0.0	8	13.8	0	0.0	0	0.0	3	58	2 Lib Dem
CAMBRIDGE CITY	2	11	26.2	1	2.4	17	40.5	12	28.6	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	2.4	0	42	1 Lab, 1 Green
EAST CAMBS.	2	12	46.2	14	53.8	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	2	26	1 Lib Dem, 1 Con
FENLAND	2	2	5.4	35	94.6	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	6	37	2 Con
HUNTINGDONSHIRE	2	20	41.7	15	31.3	1	2.1	2	4.2	0	0.0	10	20.8	0	0.0	0	0.0	4	48	1 Lib Dem, 1 Con
PETERBOROUGH	2	8	15.7	13	25.5	11	21.6	6	11.8	8	15.7	5	9.8	0	0.0	0	0.0	9	51	1 Lab, 1 Ref
SOUTH CAMBS.	2	43	95.6	2	4.4	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	45	2 Liberal Democrat
TOTAL	14	128		90		34		23		8		23		0		1		24	307	
POLITICAL BALANCE %		41.69		29.32		11.07		7.49		2.61		7.49		0.00		0.33				
Seat allocation		6		4		2		1		0		1		0		0			14	
Committee seat allocation	14	5.84		4.10		1.55		1.05		0.36		1.05		0.00		0.05				

APPENDIX 2

Audit & Governance Committee Political Balance Calculations

	Lib Dem %	Conservative %	Labour %	Green %	P'borough First %	Reform %	Your Party %	A&G allocation
Cambridgeshire	55.2	17.2	8.6	5.2	0.0	13.8	0	LIB DEM
Cambridge City	26.2	2.4	40.5	28.6	0.0	0.0	2.4	LAB
East Cambs	46.2	53.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0	LIB DEM
Fenland	5.4	94.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0	CON
Huntingdonshire	41.7	31.3	2.1	4.2	0.0	20.8	0	CON
Peterborough	15.7	25.5	21.6	11.8	15.7	9.8	0	GRN
South Cambs	95.6	4.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0	LIB DEM

Combined Authority Membership 2026/27**Authority Name: East Cambridgeshire District Council**

	Member	Substitute
CA Board (Leader of Authority)	Cllr Anna Bailey	Cllr Julia Huffer
Overview and Scrutiny Committee* (2 Members, 2 Substitutes)	Cllr Lucius Vellacott	Cllr David Brown
	Cllr Christine Whelan	Cllr Mark Inskip
Audit and Governance Committee**	Cllr Mark Inskip	Cllr Christine Whelan
Growth Committee	Cllr Martin Goodearl	Cllr Anna Bailey
Skills Committee	Cllr Mark Goldsack	Cllr Julia Huffer
Transport Committee	Cllr Alan Sharp	Cllr Bill Hunt
Funding Committee	Cllr Keith Horgan	Cllr Ian Bovingdon
Staffing Committee	Cllr Anna Bailey	Cllr Julia Huffer

* Members who sit on the Combined Authority's Overview and Scrutiny Committee cannot sit on any of the Combined Authority's de

** It is recommended that members who sit on the Combined Authority's Audit and Governance Committee do not sit on any of the C committees. The current Committee have also requested that where possible, nominations consider Members with experience or inte