Tees Valley Combined Authority Cabinet Decision Record

Cabinet Meeting Date: 24th July 2020

Title of Item

Annual Meeting Governance and Appointments

Record of Decision

Cabinet considered several items of business at its Annual General Meeting.

Councillor Norma Stephenson noted that the Stockton Council nominated substitutes for Overview & Scrutiny Committee were Councillors Eileen Johnson, Pauline Beall and Lynn Hall.

Councillor Bob Cook noted that the nomination from Stockton Council for Overview & Scrutiny of Councillor Matthew Vickers was to be replaced with Councillor Tony Riordan.

Councillor Mary Lanigan noted that the Redcar & Cleveland Council nomination for Audit & Governance Committee was Councillor Sandra Smith and the nomination for substitute member was Councillor Peter Berry.

Councillor Heather Scott noted that the Darlington Council outstanding nominations for Overview & Scrutiny Committee were Councillors Bob Donoghue & Pauline Culley.

Councillor Shane Moore noted that the Hartlepool Council nominations for Overview & Scrutiny Committee were Councillors Paddy Brown and Brenda Loynes, and Councillor Cameron Stokell was nominated as substitute member.

Jerry Hopkinson noted that he was the LEP Member nominated to attend Transport Committee on a non-voting basis.

Councillor Shane Moore noted that Mary Lanigan was nominated as Deputy Mayor in line with the rotation specified in the Combined Authority constitution.

RESOLVED that Cabinet:

- i. agreed the appointments as set out at Appendix 1;
- ii. agreed the members' allowances scheme for 2020-21 at Appendix 2;
- iii. confirmed changes to Combined Authority governance procedure as recommended by Internal Auditors.

Conflict of Interests Declared

None

Attachments

Report

Appendix 1

Appendix 2

Appendix 3

Date of Publication

Tuesday 28th July 2020

_			
Cal	II-in	Dead	lina
va		Deau	

Midnight, Sunday 2nd August 2020

Date Decision to be ImplementedMonday 4th August 2020

Title of Item

Constitution Amendments

Record of Decision

Cabinet agreed the Combined Authority Constitution in May 2017.

The Constitution of the Combined Authority was agreed in May 2017. The Constitution has subsequently been periodically reviewed to ensure it is up to date and fit for purpose with proposed amendments traditionally presented for Cabinet approval at the Annual General Meeting.

A table summarising the proposed amendments for the forthcoming year was presented to Cabinet.

RESOLVED that Cabinet: approved the proposed amendments to the Constitution.

Conflict of Interests Declared

None

Attachments

Report Appendix 1

Date of Publication

Tuesday 28th July 2020

Call-in Deadline

Midnight, Sunday 2nd August 2020

Date Decision to be Implemented

Monday 3rd August 2020

Title of Item

Investment Plan Delivery Report Q4

Record of Decision

Cabinet received an update on delivery of the Combined Authority ten-year investment programme in the period January-March 2020.

RESOLVED that Cabinet: noted the report

Conflict of Interests Declared

None

Attachments

Report Appendix 1

Date of Publication

Tuesday 28th July 2020

Call-in Deadline

Midnight, Sunday 2nd August 2020

Date Decision to be Implemented

Monday 3rd August 2020

Title of Item

Overview & Scrutiny Committee Annual Report

Record of Decision

Councillor Norma Stephenson, Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee for 2019/20, presented the Committee's Annual Report for the period of May 2019 to April 2020.

Councillor Stephenson noted her thanks to the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government, Robert Jenrick, for his quick response to her query relating to the appointment of substitute members for the Overview & Scrutiny Committee.

Councillor Stephenson also noted her thanks to Cabinet for approving the amendment to the Tees Valley Combined Authority's constitution allowing substitute members for this Committee. She added that she hopes this will ensure there are no further inquorate meeting of the Committee moving forward.

Councillor Cook noted he was pleased that there had been a quorate meeting of the Committee to agree this report for Cabinet. He noted the important role of the Committee in ensuring effective scrutiny and transparency.

Mayor Houchen noted the comments and added that with the exception of Councillor Stephenson who has always maintained attendance to Overview & Scrutiny Committee meetings, he would be pleased to see Councillors turning up to these meetings as that is what they are paid to do.

RESOLVED that Cabinet: noted the report.

Conflict of Interests Declared

None

Attachments

Report

Date of Publication

Tuesday 28th July 2020

Call-in Deadline

Midnight, Sunday 2nd July 2020

Date Decision to be Implemented

Monday 3rd August 2020

Title of Item

Inward Investment Opportunity

Record of Decision

Cabinet considered a report recommending, for approval, the award of £5.8m for a highway interchange improvement in order to secure a large inward investment opportunity with the potential to secure up to 3000 jobs.

The interchange improvement is currently part of a wider bid for Department for Transport (DfT) funding, but if this bid is unsuccessful, approval is sought for the Combined Authority to award £5.8m in grant funding on the condition of a formal commitment from the investor to develop the opportunity. The grant award would be subject to a business case and appropriate due diligence in accordance with the Combined Authority's Assurance Framework.

A condition of the investor is that at this stage all details relating to the investment opportunity and proposed site must be kept confidential.

Jerry Hopkinson, LEP Member, queried why with the substantial land blocks in the area under control of the Combined Authority, the interchange is needed.

Mayor Houchen confirmed that the identity of the inward investor and the proposed location is confidential however, he can confirm that there have several been months of dialogue with the investor and they have chosen the location and have been clear on their infrastructure requirements. He added that without the interchange improvements, they will look elsewhere in the country to place this investment. He said that this where the public sector plays a part in securing jobs and investment.

Jerry Hopkinson noted that the location was at the discretion of the investor however there are significant land bulks at Teesside International Airport and on the South Tees Development Corporation site that could be acceptable.

Mayor Houchen confirmed that the Combined Authority have not been involved in the decision relating to the site for investment. Other options were put forward to the investor, but they opted to continue with their original choice of location. He added that the Combined Authority are here to make sure this happens.

Jerry Hopkinson concluded that he felt it would be great if this opportunity was brought to fruition.

RESOLVED that Cabinet:

- i. Approved an in principle £5.8m grant award for the interchange improvement, on the condition of a formal commitment from the investor to develop the opportunity in Tees Valley. The grant would only be required if the wider bid to DfT is unsuccessful.
- ii. Approved that, should a grant from the Combined Authority be required, then in accordance with the Assurance Framework a business case is developed and approval is delegated to the Combined Authority Chief Executive, in consultation with Tees Valley Management Group, the S73 Officer and the Monitoring Officer.

Conflict of Interests Declared	
None.	
Attachments	
Report	
Date of Publication	
Tuesday 28 th July 2020	
Call-in Deadline	
Midnight, Sunday 2 nd August 2020	
Date Decision to be Implemented	
Monday 3 rd August 2020	

Title of Item

Adult Education Budget (AEB)

Record of Decision

Cabinet considered a report providing detail regarding the approach to making funding allocations for the devolved Adult Education Budget for academic year 2020/21. This funding provides adult skills training for the unemployed and those on low wages delivered by 31 Training providers, including Further Education and Sixth Form Colleges, Independent Training providers and the five Councils in the Tees Valley.

Julie Gilhespie, Tees Valley Combined Authority Chief Executive, noted that for the avoidance of doubt, the requirements noted in paragraph 19 of the report are based on existing funding rules.

RESOLVED that Cabinet:

- Approved the presented provider funding allocations of £25.6m, plus uplift and any additional carry over learning values (estimated at £200k) for the 2020/21 Academic Year;
- ii. Approved the approach considering further in-year funding allocations for 2020/21 once the impact of Covid19 is clearer and the carry over funding is confirmed;
- iii. Agreed to delegate the operational management including any in-year additional funding allocations to the Chief Executive in consultation with the elected mayor and portfolio holder in line with existing decision-making approvals;
- iv. Approved the implementation of a revised, linear payment profile;
- v. Agreed to receive a further report in 2021 summarising the outcome of an external evaluation of AEB for the 2019/20 Academic Year.

Conflict of Interests Declared

Councillor Cook, Councillor Lanigan, Councillor Moore, Councillor Scott, Mayor Preston, Zoe Lewis and Brenda McLeish declared an interest in this item.

Attachments

Report

Appendix 1 to this report is not for publication by virtue of paragraphs 3 of schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972

Date of Publication

Tuesday 28th July 2020

Call-in Deadline

Midnight, Sunday 2nd August 2020

Date Decision to be Implemented

Monday 3rd August 2020

Title of Item

Culture Paper

Record of Decision

Cabinet considered a report requesting the approval of the allocation of funds from the £20m identified for Culture & Tourism activity in the Combined Authority's Investment Plan, to support the delivery of a major event in 2023.

Jerry Hopkinson, LEP Member, highlighted the extensive amount of planning that would be required for the event.

Councillor Cook noted that the Combined Authority needs to ensure there is a legacy from the Culture & Tourism funds in the investment plan. He added that a strategy in relation to these funds would be beneficial rather than approving individual projects in a piecemeal fashion.

Mayor Houchen agreed with these comments and noted that Annabel Turpin, LEP Member, has recently been appointed to lead on developing the Combined Authority's Cultural Strategy. Her knowledge and experience of the sector is invaluable and will provide a sense of direction. He added that he looks forward to seeing the Strategy develop.

Annabel Turpin confirmed she is looking forward to getting started on this work in the following week.

RESOLVED that Cabinet:

- Subject to due diligence, approved the allocation requested of the Investment Plan culture funding to support the delivery of the event in 2023, as set out in this report; and
- ii. Delegated the finalisation of the funding and associated contractual arrangements to the Chief Executive and Group Director of Finance & Resources.

Conflict of Interests Declared

A record of the declaration of interest from the Cabinet Member from the local authority that the event will take place in is held by the Combined Authority.

Attachments

This report is not for publication by virtue of paragraphs 3 of schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972

Date of Publication

Tuesday 28th July 2020

Call-in Deadline

Midnight, Sunday 2nd August 2020

Date Decision to be Implemented

Monday 3rd August 2020