

TEES VALLEY COMBINED AUTHORITY (TVCA) CABINET

Cavendish House, Teesdale Business Park, Stockton-On-Tees at 10.00am on Friday March 13th 2020

<u>ATTENDEES</u>	
Members	
Mayor Ben Houchen (Chair)	Tees Valley Mayor
Councillor Heather Scott OBE	Leader, Darlington Borough Council
Councillor Shane Moore	Leader, Hartlepool Borough Council
Councillor Anthony High	Deputy Mayor of Middlesbrough
Councillor Mary Lanigan	Leader, Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council
Councillor Bob Cook	Leader, Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council
Associate Members	-
David Soley	Vice Chair, Tees Valley Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP)
Graham Robb	Member of Tees Valley LEP
Simon Hanson	Business Organisation Representative, Tees Valley LEP
Apologies for Absence	
Mayor Andy Preston	Mayor of Middlesbrough
Paul Booth	Chair, Tees Valley Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP)
Annabel Turpin	Member of Tees Valley LEP
Zoe Lewis	Member of Tees Valley LEP
Jerry Hopkinson	Member of Tees Valley LEP
Brenda McLeish	Member of Tees Valley LEP
Angela Howey	Member of Tees Valley LEP
Mark South	Member of Tees Valley LEP
Nigel Perry	Member of Tees Valley LEP
Professor Paul Croney	Member of Tees Valley LEP
James Ramsbotham	Business Organisation Representative, Tees Valley LEP
Officers and Others in Attendance	
Julie Gilhespie	Chief Executive, Tees Valley Combined Authority (TVCA)
Linda Edworthy	Director of Strategy and Investment Planning, TVCA
Andrew Nixon	Monitoring Officer, TVCA
John Hart	Governance Manager, TVCA
John Sampson	Managing Director, Redcar & Cleveland Borough Council
Tony Parkinson	Chief Executive, Middlesbrough Council
Garry Cummings	Director of Finance and Business Services, Stockton
	Borough Council
Cameron Waddell	Mazars LLP
Councillor Karen King	Deputy Leader, Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council
Councillor Norma Stephenson OBE	Chair of Overview and Scrutiny Committee

TVCA APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE 63/19 Apologies for absence were submitted as detailed above. John Hart, Governance Manager reported that Cllr Anthony High was attending in place of Mayor Andy Preston, and Simon Hanson was attending in place of James Ramsbotham as the Tees Valley LEP Business Organisation Representative. TVCA **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** 64/19 The Tees Valley Mayor, Graham Robb and Cllr Mary Lanigan placed on record their membership of the Board of the South Tees Development Corporation (Item 11). TVCA MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING 65/19 The minutes of the meeting held on January 31st 2020 were confirmed and signed as a true record. TVCA MATTERS ARISING 66/19 None. TVCA **MAYOR'S UPDATE** 67/19 The Tees Valley Mayor introduced a report providing a general update on the key activities of the Mayor and Combined Authority since the last Cabinet meeting. In addition to the report, the Mayor welcomed measures announced in the Budget Statement of Wednesday March 2020, highlighting the announcement of government funding for the redevelopment of Darlington Station and thanking officers from Darlington Borough Council and the Combined Authority Transport Team, led by Tom Bryant, for their work on this project. Councillor Heather Scott highlighted to importance of this investment in improving rail connectivity across the Tees Valley. Graham Robb highlighted the announcement of investment in the A66, and Councillor Shane Moore noted the 1% cut to the Public Works Loan Board interest rate, used by local authorities to fund housebuilding. The Mayor also drew members attention to the Hardship Fund announced in the budget to support local authorities manage the impact of the COVID-19. The Mayor stated that discussions had commenced with local authority leaders as to the reported potential move of Treasury staff to the Tees Valley. **RESOLVED** that: Cabinet agreed to note the report.

TVCA 68/19

GOVERNANCE AND APPOINTMENTS

Cabinet was asked to note changes to the membership of the Tees Valley Combined Authority's Overview and Scrutiny Committee and Education, Employment and Skills Partnership Board.

Councillor Heather Scott reported that Councillor Andy Keir had been appointed as Darlington Borough Council's Cabinet Member for Transport. John Hart, Governance Manager, reported that notification had been received by the Combined Authority and that the corresponding appointment to the Combined Authority's Transport Committee would be brought forward for ratification at the next Cabinet meeting.

RESOLVED that:

Cabinet noted the nominations as set out in the report.

TVCA 69/19

INVESTMENT PLAN DELIVERY REPORT Q3

Members received an update on delivery of the Combined Authority ten-year investment programme in the period October-December 2019.

RESOLVED that:

Cabinet noted the report.

TVCA 70/19

TREASURY MANAGEMENT STRATEGY 2020-21

Julie Gilhespie, Chief Executive, introduced the Combined Authority's proposed Treasury Management, Capital and Investment Strategies for the financial year 2020/21, setting out the Combined Authority's approach to borrowing, investments and cash flows, banking, money market and capital market transactions and the effective control of the risks associated with those activities.

RESOLVED that:

Cabinet approved the Treasury Management, Investment and Capital Strategies for 2020/21.

TVCA 71/19

ANNUAL AUDIT LETTER

Members received a report presenting the findings of the external audit of the final Statement of Group Accounts for Tees Valley Combined Authority and Group completed by Mazars LLP for the financial year ended March 31st 2019.

RESOLVED that:

Cabinet noted the report.

TVCA 72/19

ASSURANCE FRAMEWORK UPDATE

Members received a report on the annual review of the Combined Authority Assurance Framework.

The report proposed that the necessity for named programmes and projects without allocations agreed in the Investment Plan 2019-2029 to provide Project Initiation Documents prior to the development of Business Cases be removed, and Expressions of Interest be provided to establish indicative allocations.

RESOLVED that:

Cabinet agreed the changes to the Assurance Framework as detailed in the report and that the Framework be submitted to Government.

TVCA 73/19

COMPULSORY PURCHASE ORDER (CPO) AND JOINT VENTURE PARTNERSHIP FOR SOUTH TEES DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

Cabinet was updated that negotiations regarding the ownership of land at the STDC site, had reached a successful conclusion allowing the land to revert to local ownership.

Cabinet was advised that Combined Authority approval for the agreement was not required, but that as certain powers in the STDC establishment order were conferred upon the Combined Authority, Cabinet approval was needed for the delegation of these powers to STDC to allow completion of the transaction.

Cabinet was recommended to approve that:

- All powers conferred on TVCA in relation to STDC by virtue of paragraph 4 of the Tees Valley Combined Authority (Functions) Order 2017 and the relevant provisions contained in the Localism Act 2011 are delegated to STDC.
- Specifically, Cabinet was requested to approve the delegation of the power to provide financial assistance under the Localism Act 2011, s201
 (2) general powers and the powers within Part 8, Chapter 2 of the Localism Act 2011.

Andrew Nixon requested that paragraph 3 of the report be amended to read "This Report seeks to consent to the use of the above powers specified in the Localism Act 2011 to enable STDC to enter into the joint venture arrangement".

Councillor Shane Moore requested that Cabinet place on record its thanks to officers involved in negotiations.

RESOLVED that:

Cabinet agreed that the above recommendations be approved.

TVCA 74/19

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

At the final scheduled Cabinet meeting prior to the Mayoral Election scheduled for May 2020, the Tees Valley Mayor placed on record his thanks to members and the Combined Authority staff for their support of the past three years. Councillor Shane Moore also placed on record his thanks to officers.

TVCA 75/19

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Friday July 24th 2020