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TEES VALLEY COMBINED AUTHORITY OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Cavendish House, Stockton-On-Tees, TS17 6QY
Thursday 13th September 2018 at 10.00am

MEETING

ATTENDEES

Members

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| Cllr Norma Stephenson OBE | Stockton on Tees Borough Council | SBC |
| Cllr Derrick Brown | Stockton on Tees Borough Council | SBC |
| Cllr Heather Scott OBE | Darlington Borough Council | DBC |
| Cllr Sonia Kane | Darlington Borough Council | DBC |
| Cllr Matthew Storey | Middleborough Borough Council | MBC |
| Cllr Vic Walkington | Middleborough Borough Council | MBC |
| Cllr Phillip Thompson | Redcar & Cleveland Borough Council | R&CBC |
| Cllr Neil O'Brien | Redcar & Cleveland Borough Council | R&CBC |
| Cllr Mike McLaughlin | Hartlepool Borough Council | HBC |
| Cllr Stephen Akers-Belcher | Hartlepool Borough Council | HBC |

Apologies for absence

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| Cllr Ian Haszeldine | Darlington Borough Council | DBC |
| Cllr Rob Cook | Hartlepool Borough Council | HBC |
| Cllr Jean Sharrocks | Middlesbrough Borough Council | MBC |
| Cllr Glynn Nightingale | Redcar & Cleveland Borough Council | R&CBC |
| Cllr Matt Vickers | Stockton Borough Council | SBC |

Officers

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| John Hart | Governance & Scrutiny Officer | TVCA |
| Julie Gilhespie | Interim Managing Director | TVCA |
| Martin Waters | Head of Finance, Resources and Housing | TVCA |
| Linda Edworthy | Strategy Director | TVCA |

Other Attendees

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| Mayor David Budd | Portfolio Holder for Culture, Tourism and Innovation | TVCA/MBC |
| Gareth Alexander | Senior Media Liaison Officer | TVCA |

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| <p>OSC 18/18</p> | <p>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</p> <p>Apologies for interest were received from Councillors Cook, Haszeldine, Nightingale, Sharrocks and Vickers</p> | |
| <p>OSC 19/18</p> | <p>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</p> <p>There were no interests declared.</p> | |
| <p>OSC 20/18</p> | <p>MINUTES</p> <p>The amended minutes of the meeting on 7th June 2018 were agreed and signed as a correct record.</p> <p>Cllr Kane reiterated several requests made by the committee for further details to be provided of the money spent on advice relating to the future of Durham Tees Valley Airport, and its request at the previous meeting that the Mayor of the Tees Valley provide further information about what that advice entailed. Martin Waters, Head of Finance, Resources and Housing sought clarification on what details the committee was requesting and undertook to supply them with the requested cost breakdown.</p> | |
| <p>OSC 21/18</p> | <p>ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE INTERIM MANAGING DIRECTOR</p> <p>Julie Gilhespie, Interim Managing Director, updated members on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Items scheduled to go to Cabinet on Friday September 28, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The proposed contracting process with adult education providers following devolution of the Adult Education Budget in August 2019. ○ A review of the Local Enterprise Partnership, confirming the geographical boundaries within which the Partnership operates, and committing the LEP Board to a gender-balanced membership by 2020. ○ The Local Industrial Strategy. <p>Councillor Heather Scott asked if under devolution adult education providers will be allocated resources or required to bid for them. Julie Gilhespie replied that as this funding would be subject to procurement rules a bidding process would be necessary.</p> <p>Councillor Vic Walkington asked if some of some of the current adult education providers commissioned in the Tees Valley were based outside of the region. Julie Gilhespie confirmed that there were.</p> <p>Cllr Phillip Thomson enquired whether the Combined Authority had enough resourcing to administer the devolved Adult Education Budget. Julie Gilhespie confirmed that preparations were well advanced, and plans were being developed for the scaling up of staffing.</p> | |

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| | <p>Cllr Mike McLaughlin asked whether the Adult Education Budget represented additional funding or a relocation of existing funds. Julie Gilhespie stated that the budget was a relocation from the Department of Education in order to better align local training with regional economic needs.</p> <p>The Interim Managing Director then updated the committee on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Combined Authority’s ongoing prioritisation exercise, which would be used to develop a 10 year programme of activities. • An internal culture, vision and values exercise. • Transition arrangements for leadership of the South Tees Development Corporation following the conclusion of the contract of the previous Chief Executive. <p>The Interim Managing Director then left the meeting.</p> | |
| <p>OSC 22/18</p> | <p>PORTFOLIO UPDATE: MAYOR DAVID BUDD</p> <p>The Portfolio Holder for Culture, Tourism and Innovation introduced a report of recent activities undertaken by the Combined Authority in these areas, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The bidding process for City of Culture 2025 and the launch of the Big Conversation with local communities and stakeholders informing the bid. • The upcoming Festival of Thrift and efforts to develop cross-border cultural activities. • The bicentenary of the Stockton-Darlington Railway. • The bidding process for host city status for the Rugby World Cup 2021. <p>He also reported that confirmation had been received from the Arts Council that the Combined Authority’s bid for £3.4m of Cultural Development Fund support for the development of the film-making industry in the region had been unsuccessful and that feedback had been requested.</p> <p>He concluded by emphasising the importance of culture in terms of attracting inward investment to the region.</p> <p>Councillor Heather Scott endorsed the development of cross-border cultural activities – highlighting the success of the recent public performances of Glass Ceiling by Periplum, and thanked the portfolio holder for the Combined Authority’s support for development of cultural assets relating to the Stockton-Darlington Railway.</p> <p>Councillor Mike McLaughlin requested the portfolio holder outline how the Culture and Tourism’s budget was allocated, the approval process of capital expenditure, what metrics are used to assess the reach of destination marketing and how Combined Authority involvement in cultural projects was highlighted to stakeholders and attendees.</p> <p>The Portfolio holder outlined how the Culture and Tourism service is</p> | |

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| | <p>allocated a set annual budget, with capital investment approved by Cabinet through the standard Combined Authority assurance process, before outlining growing visitor numbers on the Visit Tees Valley website and acknowledging that public awareness of Combined Authority involvement in cultural projects was at an early stage.</p> <p>Councillor Derek Brown queried whether or not the lack of prominent Rugby League teams in the Tees Valley area could adversely affect the Combined Authority's bid for World Cup Host City status. The Portfolio holder stated that given the organiser's aim of using the World Cup to spread the popularity of Rugby League throughout the country, the lack of prominent teams in the Tees Valley could be perceived as an advantage, and highlighted the popularity of the Big Weekend events in Newcastle as a sign of a large appetite for the sport in the North East.</p> <p>Cllr Stephen Akers-Belcher highlighted the transformative effect of Hull's successful bid for City of Culture status and asked if the Combined Authority had liaised with organisers of that bid. The portfolio holder confirmed that they had.</p> <p>Cllr Sonia Kane requested that efforts be made to integrate culture and transport - allowing non-drivers to more easily access cultural assets and events – or for events such as the Festival of Thrift to move between local authority areas. Cllr Phillip Thomson echoed the value of integration between transport and cultural initiatives and noted how marketing technologies being utilised by bus and rail companies be used to promote the Tees Valley's cultural offer.</p> <p>Cllr Vic Walkington asked if the Combined Authority's priority was attracting tourism to the region or developing cultural activities for residents of the region. The portfolio holder expressed his view that there was no conflict between the two aims.</p> | |
| <p>OSC 23/18</p> | <p>OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY STUDY: DIVERSITY IN THE TEES VALLEY COMBINED AUTHORITY</p> <p>John Hart, Governance and Scrutiny Officer updated members on the progress of the study and themes emerging from initial investigations.</p> <p>Cllr Stephen Akers-Belcher asked if disability was being considered as part of the study alongside gender, sexuality and ethnicity. John Hart confirmed that it was.</p> | |
| <p>OSC 24/18</p> | <p>BUDGET FINANCE SUB-COMMITTEES</p> <p>John Hart, Governance and Scrutiny Officer updated members on the proposed timetable for the sub-committee meetings examining the Combined Authority Budget and Expenses, and for reporting its findings to the full committee, as outlined in the Forward Plan.</p> <p>Members agreed to the timetable as set out.</p> | |
| <p>OSC 25/18</p> | <p>FORWARD PLAN</p> | |

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| | <p>A verbal update about pre-planned committee appearances from portfolio holders for the coming civic year was provided by John Hart, Governance and Scrutiny Officer, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A change to a meeting date for a future meeting of the committee from Thursday February 28 2019 (10am) to Friday March 1 2019 (12noon) to accommodate the availability of the Portfolio Holder for Education, Employment and Skills. • A possible change to scheduling of the Portfolio Update from the South Tees Development Corporation necessitated by recent changes in leadership. | |
| OSC 26/18 | DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING 25th October 2018 at 10.00am | |