



Under the terms of paragraphs 1& 2 of schedule 12a of the Local Government Act 1972, Appendix 1 of this report is not for publication.

AGENDA ITEM 8

REPORT TO THE TEES VALLEY
COMBINED AUTHORITY CABINET

22ND SEPTEMBER 2023

REPORT OF CHAIR OF
TEES VALLEY BUSINESS BOARD

TEES VALLEY BUSINESS BOARD UPDATE

SUMMARY

This report details proposed members of the Tees Valley Business Board.

RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Combined Authority Cabinet:

- i. Confirm the appointment of proposed Business Board Members.

DETAIL

Following the rebrand of the Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) to the Tees Valley Business Board, a recruitment campaign was launched on 20th April 2023 with the purpose of recruiting 12 Business Board members. The recruitment campaign was successful and resulted in long-list of over 90 potential members.

The recruitment process has concluded and the list of proposed members is detailed within appendix A.

Membership is aligned, where possible, to the economic priorities of the Combined Authority to ensure that business leaders can fully integrate with Combined Authority structures to influence and effect change. The Board will deliver for Business, Work and Visit.

Business Board members will be:

- **Independent** – providing specialist, business-led insights to critically influence, shape and review economic development activity in Tees Valley.
- **Inclusive and Diverse** - providing a representative voice for all businesses in Tees Valley.

- **Innovative** – developing innovative, business-led solutions to address challenges and opportunities, and deliver transformative change for the Tees Valley economy.
- **Intelligence Led** – providing local business insights; drawing on data and intelligence; commissioning bespoke research and evaluation as required, to drive economic growth activity and maximise impact.
- **Integrated** – providing a clear voice for business, strategic connectivity and oversight across the business growth agenda, while working collaboratively and effectively with our five Local Authorities and the Combined Authority.

The term of office for all members of the Business Board is two years, extendable by one further term of two years, unless otherwise agreed by the Cabinet. The term of office for members will begin on the date of appointment.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications to this report.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

The Levelling Up White Paper (2022) makes clear that it is the intention of government that LEPs integrate with Mayoral Combined Authorities where they exist. Relevant changes to reflect new ways of working were made to TVCA Constitution in October 2022, following Cabinet approval in October 2022.

RISK ASSESSMENT

LEP/Business Board Integration is categorised as low to medium risk. Existing management systems and daily routine activities are sufficient to control and reduce risk.

CONSULTATION & COMMUNICATION

The Business Board recruitment campaign was launched with a press release and communicated via Tees Valley Combined Authority social media channels. The Chair of the Business Board consulted with Local Authority leaders during the recruitment process.

EQUALITY & DIVERSITY

The Business Board intends to be an inclusive and diverse board, representative of the business communities in Tees Valley. A member of the Business Board will be appointed as a dedicated Diversity Champion. This is a specific role for ensuring equality and diversity is at the heart of Combined Authority decision making.

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