



Tees Valley Combined Authority Overview and Scrutiny Committee
Tees Valley Combined Authority Offices; Teesside Airport Business Suite, Teesside
International Airport, Darlington DL2 1NJ

Thursday, 22 February at 1.00pm

Present:

Members

Councillor Ian Haszeldine	Darlington Borough Council (Chair)
Councillor Sonia Kane	Darlington Borough Council
Councillor Andy Keir	Darlington Borough Council
Councillor Brenda Harrison	Hartlepool Borough Council
Councillor Margaret O'Donoghue	Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council
Councillor Jack Symon	Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council
Councillor Glyn Nightingale	Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council
Councillor Steve Nelson	Stockton Borough Council (Vice-Chair)
Councillor Pauline Beall	Stockton Borough Council
Councillor Tony Riordan	Stockton Borough Council
Councillor David Branson	Middlesbrough Council
Councillor Matt Storey	Middlesbrough Council

In Attendance

Mayor Ben Houchen	Tees Valley Mayor
Emma Simson	Acting Group Chief Legal Officer and Monitoring Officer, TVCA
Gary Macdonald	Group Director of Finance & Resources, TVCA
Tom Bryant	Director of Infrastructure, TVCA
Guy Close	Governance and Scrutiny Manager, TVCA
Connor Malone	Governance and Scrutiny Officer, TVCA

<p>OSC 24/24</p>	<p>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND NOTIFICATION OF SUBSTITUTES</p> <p>Apologies for absence were submitted by Councillors Jim Lindridge (Hartlepool Borough Council), Dennis McCabe (Middlesbrough Council) and Paul Salvin (Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council).</p> <p>Notification had been received that Councillor Jack Symon was to substitute for Councillor Paul Salvin.</p>
<p>OSC 25/24</p>	<p>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</p> <p>There were no declarations of interest.</p>
<p>OSC 26/24</p>	<p>MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING</p> <p>Councillor Nightingale submitted his apologies for absence for the Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting on 8 November 2023.</p> <p>Resolved – That subject to the inclusion of Councillor Nightingale under the list of apologies for absence, the minutes of the meeting held on 8 November 2023 be approved as correct record.</p>
<p>OSC 27/24</p>	<p>REVIEW OF OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY SUB-COMMITTEE - BUSES</p> <p>The Chair of the Buses Sub Committee, Councillor David Branson, presented the report, which concluded the work of the Buses Sub Committee.</p> <p>Members discussed the content of the report and heard from the Chair of the Sub Committee regarding some of the key areas and recommendations.</p> <p>Tom Bryant, Director of Transport and Infrastructure, was invited to provide an update on the recommendation in relation to real time bus information. It was advised that there had been some positive developments in relation to this area and a further update was to be provided to the Committee later in the year.</p> <p>Resolved – That the Committee approves the recommendations as set out in the report for submission to Cabinet to consider and agree.</p>
<p>OSC 28/24</p>	<p>REVIEW OF OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY SUB-COMMITTEE - STDC</p> <p>The Chair of the STDC Sub Committee, Councillor Matt Storey, presented the report, which concluded the work of the STDC Sub Committee.</p>

	<p>Councillor Storey reported that the Sub Committee had been careful to avoid duplicating work already undertaken as part of the independent review and to maintain a clear and defined scope.</p> <p>Gary Macdonald, Director of Finance and Resources, discussed the nature of social value in relation to procurement exercises. It was noted that the procurement team had been supportive of the feedback contained in the report.</p> <p>Resolved – That the Committee approves the recommendations as set out in the report for submission to Cabinet to consider and agree.</p>
<p>OSC 29/24</p>	<p>INDEPENDENT REVIEW: SOUTH TEES DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION AND TEESWORKS JOINT VENTURE</p> <p>The Acting Group Chief Legal Officer and Monitoring Officer, Emma Simson, submitted a report which presented an update on the Independent Review into the Tees Valley Combined Authority's oversight of the South Tees Development Corporation and Teesworks Joint Venture (Teesworks Limited).</p> <p>Clarification was provided that the inquiry had been requested by the Tees Valley Mayor on 16 May 2023 due to allegations made in relation to corruption at Teesworks. The Mayor emphasised that the inquiry was not a result of accusations that had been made.</p> <p>The Committee held a detailed discussion about the inquiry and report. The Chair advised that Overview and Scrutiny was not a place for political point scoring.</p> <p>The Acting Chief Legal Officer and Monitoring Officer informed the Committee that a working group had been established consisting of senior officers from all constituent local authorities to deliver an action plan to support the recommendations as set out in the inquiry report.</p> <p>Members briefly discussed how the recently introduced scrutiny protocol linked to the recommendations set out in the report.</p> <p>Members were advised that some areas in the independent report required clarification from central government before a detailed response could be formulated.</p> <p>Resolved –</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) That the Committee requests a copy of the draft response to the Secretary of State is to be circulated to all members of the Committee for feedback and comments. 2) That the Committee requests a Member of the TVCA Overview and Scrutiny Committee is appointed to serve on the working group consisting of senior officers from across all constituent local authorities. 3) That the Committee reviews progress made against the recommendations contained in the action plan once the plan has been finalised.

<p>OSC 30/24</p>	<p>DELEGATED DECISIONS</p> <p>Members received a list of delegated decisions covering the period December 2023 to January 2024.</p> <p>Resolved – That the Committee noted the delegated decisions covering the period December 2023 to January 2024.</p>
<p>OSC 31/24</p>	<p>WORK PROGRAMME 2023/24</p> <p>Guy Close, Governance and Scrutiny Manager introduced the work programme for the remainder of the 2023/24 municipal year.</p> <p>The Committee was informed that the intention was to present the annual report and a briefing document on the scrutiny protocol to the March Overview and Scrutiny Committee.</p> <p>Resolved – That the work programme for 2023/24, be approved.</p>
<p>OSC 32/24</p>	<p>DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING</p> <p>Thursday, 14 March 2024 at 10.00am.</p>