



**MIDDLESBROUGH DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION BOARD**

**20<sup>th</sup> September 2023 10am**

**Mandela Room, Middlesbrough Town Hall, Albert Road, Middlesbrough, TS1 2QJ**

<b><u>ATTENDEES</u></b>	
<b><u>Members</u></b>	
Mayor Ben Houchen (Chair)	Tees Valley Mayor
Mayor Chris Cooke	Middlesbrough Mayor (Elected Member of Middlesbrough Council)
Idrees Rashid	Independent Member
Steve Turner	Independent Member
Paul Booth	Independent Member
<b><u>Associate Members</u></b>	
Julie Gilhespie	Associate Member
Clive Heaphy	Associate Member
<b><u>Officers in Attendance</u></b>	
Gary Macdonald	Group Director of Finance & Resources
Emma Simson	Interim Chief Legal Officer (Monitoring Officer)
Sarah Brackenborough	Head of Operations
Victoria Pescod	In House Lawyer
Charlie Kemp	Head of Creative Place
Nicola Dean	Governance & Scrutiny Officer
<b><u>Others in Attendance</u></b>	
Josh Woollard	Nathaniel Lichfield & Partners
<b><u>Apologies</u></b>	
Mark Webster	Independent Advisor
Mieka Smiles	Independent Member
<b>MDC 09/23</b>	<b>CHAIRS WELCOME &amp; APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</b>
The Chair welcomed Members to the Middlesbrough Development Corporation (MDC) Board meeting.	
<b>MDC</b>	Middlesbrough Development Corporation

	Apologies for absence were submitted as detailed above.
<b>MDC 10/23</b>	<b>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</b>  There were no interests declared.
<b>MDC 11/23</b>	<b>MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING</b>  The Minutes of the previous meeting of 19 <sup>th</sup> July 2023 were reviewed and agreed as a true record.  Middlesbrough Mayor, Chris Cooke, (CC) noted a comment on the way the Investment Proposal have at times been recorded in the minutes. It was noted that it would be preferable for more detail to be included in future record clearly the information provided to the Board. The Chair noted no decisions were taken in those areas but agreed a need to have all details recorded in the Minutes.  <b>RESOLVED</b> that:- the Minutes of the previous meeting of 19 <sup>th</sup> July 2023 were agreed as a true record.
<b>MDC 12/23</b>	<b>CHAIR'S UPDATE</b>  The Chair advised the Board he had nothing to update on, that was not covered in the rest of the agenda.  <b>RESOLVED</b> that:- the Board noted the Chair's update.
<b>MDC 13/23</b>	<b>CHIEF EXECUTIVES UPDATE</b>  Julie Gilhespie, (JG), Group Chief Executive, provided an update on the Tees Valley Investment Zone. A Business Case was being co-developed with Government, with a series of Gateways to be met during the process of sign off. TVCA were working with Teesside University as co-signatory of the Investment Zone. The sector chosen as the focus of the Investment Zone was digital and technology, with identified clusters in Middlesbrough, Hartlepool and at the airport. The Chair explained that Government have been quite prescriptive about the outcomes of the Investment Zone.  It was noted that formal sign off of the Tees Valley Investment Zone was expected at the Autumn Statement but that this was dependent on the conclusion of the independent review. The Board were advised that by the next meeting there should be more clarity.  <b>RESOLVED</b> that:- the Board noted the CEO Update.
<b>MDC 14/23</b>	<b>UPDATE ON PLANNING SERVICES FOR MIDDLESBROUGH DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION</b>  The Board were updated on the delivery of planning services by MDC since planning powers were transferred on 1st June 2023.

	<p>Idrees Rashid, (IR) sought clarification on the timeframe for planning decisions coming to Board. Josh Woollard (JW), Lichfields, provided a summary of the process and the Scheme of Delegation, along with the types of items that may come to Board. It was explained to be difficult to determine the quantity that would be received, although it was confirmed that there were 2 scheduled for the next Board.</p> <p>Paul Booth, (PB), gave praise for the Planning training delivered to Members and asked the slides from the session be provided. JW confirmed he would arrange this in advance of the next meeting. It was confirmed that most Members had undertaken training with one Member outstanding and it was noted that this was scheduled to take place before the next meeting.</p> <p>CC queried the process with an emerging Local Plan and an old one still in existence, as Middlesbrough Council are in the process of updating the Local Plan. JW explained that the existing Local Plan should be given the weight and the emerging Plan will supersede that once it has been through a consultation process, so long as there are no significant objections.</p> <p>The Chair sought clarification on the MDC Masterplan and the emerging Local Plan. JW explained that MDC was working with Middlesbrough Council (MBC) on policies specifically related to MDC areas to go into the Local Plan. While MDC has adopted the Masterplan, it was explained to be a material consideration rather than an adopted document, and the Local Plan should still be accorded with.</p> <p>CC asked how confident Board could be that the £1m a year costs of the planning function could be met. JG clarified that a prudent budget had been set, based on advice received, and it was expected that planning fees over time would contribute to the costs. It was also expected that additional capacity for planning could be secured through the Investment Zone. The Chair confirmed the figure was a budget item to make sure that a prudent estimate is being projected in the budget.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED</b> that:- Board noted the update.</p>
<p><b>MDC 15/23</b></p>	<p><b>APPOINTMENT OF HEAD OF PLANNING &amp; PLANNING SCHEME OF DELEGATION</b></p> <p>Members were provided with a Report seeking confirmation of the appointment of the Head of Planning of MDC and the arrangements for the day to day delivery of the planning service.</p>

	<p>PB queried the consultation and communication process for planning applications and where responsibility for transparency and publication sat. The Chair confirmed that MDC had that responsibility now. JG added that there are links on the planning applications section of the MDC webpage and the Middlesbrough Council webpage to ensure that any interested parties are aware of planning applications on both sites.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED that:</b> Board approved the appointment of Helen Kemp as the Head of Planning for MDC; Board approved the Scheme of Delegation; Board confirmed the appointment of Lichfields to deliver the day-to-day planning services for MDC.</p>
<b>MDC 16/23</b>	<p><b>MIDDLESBROUGH DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION DRAFT DESIGN CODE</b></p> <p>Board approval was sought for the DRAFT MDC Design Code for a period of public consultation and Members were invited to provide feedback.</p> <p>Steve Turner, (ST), noted it was positive to see the inclusion of 'secure by design' as it provides further assurance that this is important to be adhered to and that the Police have that voice within MDC.</p> <p>It was confirmed that the consultation period would be 21<sup>st</sup> September to 15<sup>th</sup> October 2023 and subject to consultation, the Design Code would be brought back to the next Board meeting.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED that:</b> Board approved the publication of the draft MDC Design Code for the period of consultation.</p>
	<p><i>THE CHAIR PROPOSED A MOTION TO EXCLUDE THE PRESS &amp; PUBLIC FROM THE FOLLOWING CONFIDENTIAL ITEM UNDER THE TERMS OF PARAGRAPH 3 OF SCHEDULE 12A OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972</i></p> <p><i>This was agreed by ST and seconded by PB.</i></p>
<b>MDC 17/23</b>	<p><b>OPT IN TO PSAA FOR EXTERNAL SERVICES</b></p> <p>Board received a report providing options for future External Audit services to cover the period 2023-24 to 2027-28 financial statements.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED that:</b> Board approved the recommendations within the report.</p>
<b>MDC 18/23</b>	<p><b>INVESTMENT PROPOSAL A</b></p>

	<b>RESOLVED that:</b> Board noted the update.
<b>MDC 19/23</b>	<b>INVESTMENT PROPOSAL B</b>  <b>RESOLVED that:</b> Board noted the update.
	<b>DATE OF NEXT MEETING:</b> Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup> October at 1pm <span style="float: right;">Venue TBC</span>