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Tees Valley Combined Authority Cabinet

Annual General Meeting

Appendix 2 to Agenda Item 4, Governance & Appointments Paper

## SOUTH TEES DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION BOARD

Independent Member	Allan Armstrong
Independent Member	John Baker
Executive Member	Councillor Alec Brown, Leader of Redcar & Cleveland Borough Council
Independent Member	Councillor Carolyn Curr (appointed in her capacity as Elected Member at Redcar & Cleveland Borough Council)
Independent Member	Jason Faulkner
Independent Member	Lyndsay Hogg
Tees Valley Mayor	Ben Houchen
Independent Member	Councillor Carole Morgan (appointed in her capacity as Elected Member at Redcar & Cleveland Borough Council)
Independent Member	Kevin Shakesheff MBE
Independent Member	David Smith
Substitute for Leader of Redcar & Cleveland BC	Councillor Carrie Richardson
Associate Member	Group Chief Executive (currently Julie Gilhespie)
Associate Member	Managing Director, Redcar & Cleveland Borough Council (currently John Sampson)
Associate Member	Interim Government Representative (currently Tom Smyth)

**Allan Armstrong** – Independent Member - Commercial Director, Sir Robert McAlpine

Allan began working in the construction industry in 1987 as a trainee quantity surveyor with Balfour Beatty Construction Ltd and has subsequently worked at Laing O'Rourke Construction Ltd, Wates Construction Ltd, freelance for Turner Townsend and now at Sir Robert McAlpine Ltd.

His current role is Commercial Director for the Healthcare Sector, a national position overseeing all construction projects with a Healthcare bias, carrying out works solely as Sir Robert McAlpine but also as a joint venture under the Procure 23 Framework with Vinci Construction Ltd, branded as Integrated Healthcare Projects. Although his current role is in healthcare, he has gained a broad experience in most sectors including commercial, accommodation, education, industrial, nuclear.

As a member of the Commercial Directorate team he is also responsible for the commercial function which involves commercial processes and guidance; commercial reporting; staff recruitment and placement; staff learning, training and coaching; contract negotiation and dispute resolution.

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## John Baker – Independent Member



John Baker has spent his whole career in the steel industry and for most of that time was based in Teesside.

He joined Teesside Cast Products (Tata Steel) as HR Director in 2006, remaining in that role until 2011. He became the Director of Public Relations & Media with SSI UK until the site closure in 2015.

John is also a Board member of the South Tees Site Company Ltd, and Chair of the Middlesbrough Football Club Foundation, having also previous experience as a school governor and Chair of a Multi Academy Trust.

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## Alec Brown – Leader, Redcar & Cleveland Borough Council



Cllr Alec Brown is the Leader of Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council. He took on the role in May 2023 and remains the Leader of the Labour Group on the Council.

Cllr Brown, who serves in the Kirkleatham ward in Redcar, was first elected to the Council in 2015. He served as the Cabinet member for Neighbourhoods in the Council's administration between 2015 and 2019.

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**Carolyn Curr – Independent Member - Cllr for Belmont / Conservative Group Leader, Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council**

Carolyn has spent 20 years in local government, including roles as Head of Policy and Performance Services, Wirral Metropolitan Council, Merseyside City Region; Head of Policy Carlisle City Council; Healthy Cities Director, Carlisle City Council.

She has also worked in tourism and hospitality and the financial services industry and lived in France for a number of years running a holiday lettings business.

In May 2023 she was elected to Redcar and Cleveland Council and to Guisborough Town Council. She sits on the Corporate Resources and Governance Scrutiny Committee, the Adult Social Care and Public Health Scrutiny Committee, and is currently chairing a cross-party working group looking at the significant challenges the council is facing.

In March this year she was elected as the Deputy Chair for Membership and Fundraising for the South Tees Conservative Association. Carolyn is also a volunteer with a local environmental charity – Guisborough Town Pride – and was secretary of Whitby Civic Society.

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## Jason Faulkner – Independent Member - Executive Principal, Redcar and Cleveland College



Born in Teesside, Jason has over 20 years' experience in further education, following a career in the Army spanning 14 years in which he served around the world.

Jason started his career in education as a Prince's Trust Team Leader working with some of the most vulnerable young people in society. Jason spent 15 years of his career at Stockton Riverside College leading the College curriculum development.

In August 2018 Jason was appointed as the Principal of Redcar and Cleveland College following the merger with Stockton Riverside College. Using his leadership skills, and with a fantastic team, Jason has transformed Redcar and Cleveland College. It is now the leading College in Tees Valley for all things Energy.

As the Executive Principal at the Education Training Collective, Jason leads Redcar and Cleveland College, Neta Training and several cross-Group responsibilities to support the delivery of education across Redcar and Cleveland and Stockton-on-Tees.

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### Lyndsay Hogg – Independent Member - Hogg Global Logistics



After starting Hogg Global Logistics while 8.5 months pregnant, and building the business to the success it is today during her maternity leave, Lyndsay has shown drive and commitment beyond the norm.

Hogg Global is five years young but going strong through various start-up challenges, including Covid and Brexit. Lyndsay upskilled ahead of Brexit, completing 30 training certificates and three qualifications through lockdown in a bid to offer free advice to all traders needing support in the transition across the country with no obligation to use Hogg Global services. This seen many multinationals – hundreds of times the size of Hogg Global – calling in for advice, giving Hogg Global an edge in a very competitive industry and a growing customer base that has stayed with them to date.

Lyndsay has provided ground-level support, such as donating 18,000 packets of sanitary products across her hometown and starting a campaign to have these provided free in all Hartlepool businesses – with many joining the initiative countrywide. She also coordinated the town's response to send medical aid to Ukraine, sending 10 trucks in total and raising £13,000.

Hogg Global Logistics also became the first (and only) North-East business to win the King's Award for Enterprise in International Trade – completing the process herself from start to finish. This demonstrates the company's standards for excellence in its industry.

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## Ben Houchen – Tees Valley Mayor



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Ben qualified as a solicitor in 2009 and practised corporate law, commercial law and commercial litigation for six years before running his own business. He was UK & European CEO of an international sportswear company. He was also leader of the Conservative Group on Stockton Borough Council from 2014 to 2017.

He was elected as the first Mayor of the Tees Valley in 2017 and was re-elected in 2021 with 73% of the vote. He was then elected for a third term in 2024 and currently continues to serve as the elected Mayor.





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In his first term, Ben successfully delivered his manifesto pledge to save Teesside Airport from closure and is continuing to deliver the 10-year Rescue Plan for the airport.

He is responsible for establishing the first Mayoral Development Corporation (South Tees Development Corporation - Teesworks) outside of London, second only to the Olympic Park – which was set up for the 2012 Olympics. The Development Corporation is responsible for the regeneration of the largest brownfield site in western Europe, which has attracted billions of pounds in foreign direct investment and is creating thousands of manufacturing jobs in industries like offshore wind, hydrogen and carbon, capture and storage. He has also created two more Mayoral Development Corporations to help regenerate Middlesbrough and Hartlepool town centres.

He has also helped to deliver national policies to help level up the country, including being one of the architects of the UK's Freeport policy. As a result, he was able to establish the UK's first and largest freeport – the Teesside Freeport. He also worked closely with Government to bring the newly established Treasury Economic Campus to Darlington, which is the premier home for the Treasury outside of London.

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## Carole Morgan – Independent Member - Cllr, Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council



Carole trained as a secondary school teacher in Liverpool and then held a teaching career spanning 35 years, mainly in Modern Foreign Languages but also including Sport, Maths and working with SEND children. She retired in 2011 to run a small animal business and take care of young grandchildren.

Carole has represented Ormesby Ward on Redcar & Cleveland Council since 2016, served for seven years on its Regulatory Committee and is the current Chair of the Governance Committee. Between September 2020 and May 2022, she was proud to serve as Mayor of Redcar & Cleveland, and raised funds for Zoe's Place, Eva Women's Aid, Rubies and The Link Charitable Trust.

Carole has campaigned to preserve local green spaces and is involved in community groups in the area, including Friends of Morton Carr Wood, knitting/craft groups and Friends of Nunthorpe Railway Station. As a Board Member of Esk Valley Railway Development Company, she is keen to see more frequent and reliable rail services across the area.

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## Kevin Shakesheff MBE, FICS – Independent Member - ICS



Kevin is currently the Global President of the Institute of Chartered Shipbrokers (ICS), at its head office in London. ICS is a members organisation delivering Maritime education worldwide, with 27 branches and 80 exam centres.

Kevin is also Chairman of the North Tees and Hartlepool Mission to Sea Farers and is co-founder of the High Tide Foundation Teesside (an organisation providing opportunities to children aged 12 to 18 to seek careers in the Port and Shipping sectors).

He is a former Managing Director and owner of Casper Shipping Limited, a leading UK Maritime services provider and he orchestrated a management buyout in 2002. Other senior positions Kevin has held during his career include 18 years with Powell Duffryn as Regional Shipping Manager, six years' overseas experience and partner in an international chemical tankers broker company based in Barcelona.

Kevin was awarded an MBE in January 2024 for Services to Young People in Business and to the Maritime Industry.

## David Smith – Independent Member

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David Smith joined Energy Networks Association in July 2003 as the Director of Policy, and he was appointed Chief Executive in October 2007.

David is Vice President of GEODE, the European association for the electricity and gas distribution networks. He sits on the Government Industry Contact Group on Distributed Energy.

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**Cllr. Carrie Richardson, Deputy Leader – Redcar & Cleveland Borough Council**

Substitute Member for the Leader of Redcar & Cleveland Borough Council



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### Associate Members

Group Chief Executive (currently Julie Gilhespie)

Managing Director, Redcar & Cleveland Borough Council (currently John Sampson)

Interim HM Government Representative (currently Tom Smyth)



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**South Tees Development Corporation Board – SKILLS MATRIX (+ Mayor + Leader)**

Board Member	Armstrong, Allan	Baker, John	Curr, Carolyn	Faulkner, Jason	Hogg, Lyndsay	TBC	Morgan, Carole	Shakesheff, Kevin	Smith, David
<b>Expertise/Skill/Experience</b>									
Legal/Governance			✓				✓		
Regulatory/Audit/Public policy	✓		✓	✓			✓		
Financial/Accounting	✓								
Comms, marketing and PR		✓							
CEO/Senior exec/leader of significant operations	✓			✓	✓			✓	✓
International inward investment					✓			✓	✓
Regeneration	✓	✓						✓	✓
Science/Engineering/Technology								✓	✓
Net Zero					✓				✓
Employment and Skills		✓		✓					
Industry background	✓	✓			✓			✓	✓



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## HARTLEPOOL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION BOARD

Independent Member	Sarah Bedford
Independent Member	Simon Corbett
Independent Member	Business Board Member (currently Alison Gwynn)
Executive Member	Councillor Brenda Harrison, Leader of Hartlepool Borough Council
Tees Valley Mayor	Ben Houchen
Independent Member	Brenda McLeish OBE
Independent Member	Lisa Molloy
Independent Member	Councillor Shane Moore (appointed in his capacity as elected member at Hartlepool Borough Council)
Independent Member	Martin Raby
Independent Member	Cleveland Police & Crime Commissioner (currently Matt Storey)
Substitute for Leader of Hartlepool BC	TBC
Associate Member	Group Chief Executive (currently Julie Gilhespie)
Associate Member	Managing Director, Hartlepool Borough Council (currently Denise McGuckin)
Independent Adviser	Chief Constable of Cleveland Police (currently Mark Webster)

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**Sarah Bedford**

Sarah Bedford is a Director at HMB Accountants in Billingham, with over 30 years of experience in the accounting profession. She qualified as an accountant early in her career and now co-leads HMB Accountants with her husband, Howard Bedford. Sarah specialises in helping owner-managed businesses, primarily within the Tees Valley, to grow and prosper. Her work with local business owners gives her a deep understanding of the challenges they face. Under her leadership, HMB Accountants provides exceptional service and strategic guidance, fostering the success of the local business community.

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**Simon Corbett – Chief Executive Officer, Orange Box**

Simon Corbett is the driven and ambitious CEO of Orangebox Training. With a passion for maintaining high standards and developing a positive culture, Simon is a successful entrepreneur with over 23 years' experience in various industries, including retail, sales, banking, and law enforcement. His expertise lies in covert policing, training delivery, and leadership and management.

In March 2016, Simon launched Orangebox Training as a start-up, demonstrating his commitment to creating a people-centric environment. Now leading a team of more than 60 staff, including skilled consultants and trainers, Simon ensures exceptional training services across the UK, Europe, and the UAE, with a focus on customer satisfaction, teamwork, and quality assurance.

Simon excels in building strong partnerships and managing funding contracts, earning recognition as a Community Business Champion and even visiting 10 Downing Street in May 2023. Beyond his role at Orangebox Training, Simon serves as Chair of the

Hartlepool Economic & Business Forum. Additionally, he dedicates his time as a Business Ambassador and fundraiser for the Alice House Hospice, a cause close to his heart.

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**Business Board Member – Independent Member (currently Alison Gwynn - Chief Executive Officer, North East Screen)**



Alison leads North East Screen, North East England's Screen Agency, whose work is focused on economic recovery and growth to deliver the sustainable development of screen industries in the region.

Alison has over 25 years' experience in culture and creative industry, from providing marketing leadership at the Centre for Life to being instrumental in the planning and development of Seven Stories, the National Centre for Children's Books. Her passion is to support the commercial business development of creative industry in North East England to be sustainable and thrive!

Recent achievements include securing a £37million regional investment from both a Partnership with the BBC and the formation of a landmark pan-region partnership – North East Screen Industry Partnership (NESIP). NESIP was formed by the three Combined

and 12 Local Authorities from across the region to level up regional film and TV industries by more than doubling its 2019 share of the UK production market, delivering an annual economic impact to the regional economy of £88million. Alison received a Royal Television Society award for Outstanding Contribution to the Screen industry in 2022.

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### **Brenda Harrison – Councillor, Leader of Hartlepool Borough Council**



Councillor Brenda Harrison was elected as the first female Leader of Hartlepool Borough Council in May 2024. She is a Labour Councillor and has represented the De Bruce Ward since May 2016. She served as Chair of the Council's Children's Services Committee from 2018 to 2019.

Prior to entering politics, Councillor Harrison's career was in education, spending 33 years of her career teaching music and English in a Hartlepool secondary school.

Councillor Harrison is the Portfolio Holder for Culture and Tourism on the Tees Valley Combined Authority Cabinet and is passionate about delivering a brighter future for Hartlepool and the wider Tees Valley and ensuring young people have a voice to be heard.

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## **Ben Houchen – Tees Valley Mayor**



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direct investment and is creating thousands of manufacturing jobs in industries like offshore wind, hydrogen and carbon, capture and storage. He has also created two more Mayoral Development Corporations to help regenerate Middlesbrough and Hartlepool town centres.

He has also helped to deliver national policies to help level up the country, including being one of the architects of the UK's Freeport policy. As a result, he was able to establish the UK's first and largest freeport – the Teesside Freeport. He also worked closely with Government to bring the newly established Treasury Economic Campus to Darlington, which is the premier home for the Treasury outside of London.

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### **Brenda McLeish OBE DL - Chief Executive Officer, Learning Curve Group**



Brenda McLeish OBE DL is the CEO of one of the UK's largest training providers, Learning Curve Group.

With more than 20 years' experience in the education sector, Brenda has helped drive significant growth in the business, which delivers a broad range of educational services and training programmes across diverse industry sectors and a broad range of learners.



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Having entered the sector with East Durham College, Brenda developed her career in a number of roles before joining Learning Curve Group in 2008. Progressing to her current role as Chief Executive, Brenda has helped the business grow from 40 full-time employees to almost 1,000.

Learning Curve Group supports approximately 200,000 learners every year through the learning materials it creates and directly across its network of training facilities and skills academies across England and Wales as well as through relationships with many thousands of employers. Since 2004, the company has seen its turnover increase from £1million to in excess of £60m, also gaining national coverage as a training provider.

Brenda was awarded an OBE for her services to education in the 2022 Queen's New Year Honours list recognising her 20 years of dedication to the education and training sector on a national scale. This is due to always going above and beyond to promote positive change for the industry, fundraise for many charities and truly embody her vision for transforming lives through learning. Continuing her great success in 2022 Brenda was appointed Deputy Lieutenant of County Durham in May for her dedication and contribution to education and skills in the region.

Brenda is an active member of a series of strategic boards and network steering groups including AELP and St Martins Group.

She has also led on strategy to respond to local and national priorities to support NEETs, apprenticeship provision, delivery to the unemployed, work-based training, flexible learning provision and English and Mathematics.

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**Lisa Molloy – Commercial Director, Strabag UK**

Lisa Molloy is a Commercial Director in the construction industry and the author of Molly in Construction. She has 20 years' experience working both nationally and internationally, commercially delivering major construction projects in civil engineering, renewables, oil and gas and infrastructure sectors – including commercially managing civil engineering businesses, managing commercial and contractual risks and mentoring and managing teams to achieve successful commercial delivery.

She has a vested interest in industry issues and their resolution, providing representation on industry boards and panels including conflict avoidance and resolution, EDI and has a personal interest in skills shortage issues.

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## **Shane Moore – Cllr, Hartlepool Borough Council**



Cllr Shane Moore has been an elected Member of Hartlepool Borough Council for over 8 year and held a number of senior positions, including the Leader of the Council which oversaw the creation of the Development Corporation.

With a keen interest in housing, sports and the cultural sector, Shane led on ambitious capital regeneration projects that are currently ongoing totalling over £80 million of investment.

Alongside his Council work, Shane works in the transport industry specialising in petroleum products. He is also a member of the North Area Council for Arts Council England.

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## Martin Raby



Martin is a Chartered Accountant. He has worked in senior roles in further and higher education, and as a consultant for KPMG, for over three decades. He has been the Principal at The Northern School of Art since 2008, and gained a PhD based on a case study at the institution. The School is a specialist institution delivering further and higher education courses at campuses in Middlesbrough and Hartlepool. It holds Ofsted Outstanding ratings (2009, 2022) and Teaching Excellence Framework (TEF) Gold awards (2017, 2023).

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## **Cleveland Police and Crime Commissioner (currently Matt Storey)**



The role of the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) is to be the voice of the people and hold the police to account. They are responsible for the totality of policing. They are elected by the public to hold Chief Constables and the force to account, to cut crime, deliver an effective and efficient police service within their police force area, most importantly, making the police answerable to the communities they serve.

PCCs must ensure community needs are met as effectively as possible and are tasked with improving local relationships through building confidence and restoring trust. They work in partnership across a range of agencies at local and national level to ensure there is a unified approach to preventing and reducing crime.

Under the terms of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011, PCCs must:

- secure efficient and effective police for their area.
- appoint the Chief Constable, hold them to account for running the force, and if necessary, dismiss them.
- set the police and crime objectives for their area through a police and crime plan;
- set the force budget and determine the precept;
- contribute to the national and international policing capabilities set out by the Home Secretary; and
- bring together community safety and criminal justice partners, to make sure local priorities are joined up.



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With this in mind, it is clear that it is beneficial for the PCC to be a member of the Middlesbrough Development Corporation board.

The current Cleveland PCC Matt Storey was newly elected to the PCC position in May 2024. Matt has worked in the public sector for his entire career, in the Office of Dari Taylor, Member of Parliament for Stockton South, as an officer at Middlesbrough Borough Council and as Parliamentary Office Manager to Andy McDonald MP since 2012. Matt has since been a Councillor in Middlesbrough since 2016 representing Central Ward and was Labour Group Leader between 2019 and 2023 and Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Board until May 2024.

### Associate Members

Group Chief Executive (currently Julie Gilhespie)

Managing Director, Hartlepool Borough Council (currently Denise McGuckin )

Independent Adviser - Chief Constable of Cleveland Police (currently Mark Webster)



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Hartlepool Development Corporation Board - SKILLS MATRIX (+ Mayor + Leader)

Board Member	Bedford, Sarah	Corbett, Simon	Business Board Member Alison Gwynn	McLeish, Brenda	Molloy, Lisa	Moore, Shane	Raby, Martin	Storey, Matt (PCC)
<b>Expertise/Skill/Experience</b>								
Legal/Governance						✓		✓
Regulatory/Audit/Public policy	✓					✓	✓	✓
Financial/Accounting	✓						✓	
Comms, marketing and PR		✓	✓					
CEO/Senior exec/leader of significant operations		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Commercial/Investment		✓	✓	✓	✓			
International/inward investment	✓	✓	✓		✓			
Regeneration	✓	✓	✓		✓			
Science/Engineering/Technology					✓			
Net Zero					✓			
Creative/Culture/Tourism			✓	✓			✓	
Business, Employment and Skills		✓		✓			✓	
Transport/Infrastructure					✓	✓		
Voluntary/Third Sector			✓			✓		✓



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## MIDDLESBROUGH DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION BOARD

Independent Member	Paul Bell
Mayor of Middlesbrough	Chris Cooke
Independent Member	Tony Grainge
Independent Member	Riaz Hameed
Independent Member	Father Glyn Holland
Tees Valley Mayor	Ben Houchen
Tees Valley Business Board Member	Imran Amwar
Independent Member	Martin Raby
Independent Member	Stephanie Spensley
Independent Member	Cleveland Police & Crime Commissioner (currently Matt Storey)
Substitute for Mayor of Middlesbrough	Councillor Theo Furness
Associate Member	Group Chief Executive (currently Julie Gilhespie)
Associate Member	Managing Director, Middlesbrough Council (currently Clive Heaphy)
Independent Adviser	Chief Constable of Cleveland Police (currently Mark Webster)

**Tees Valley Business Board Member – Independent Member** - (Currently Imran Anwar - Chief Executive Officer, Alt Labs)

As the founder and CEO of Alt Labs, Imran has grown the business into a national award-winning innovation company. Starting as a solo venture, it has landed substantial contracts with renowned entities such as the London North Eastern Railway, Transport for Wales, Go-Ahead Group and UCL, resulting in year-on-year growth.

With more than a decade of in-depth experience in Transport, Banking, Fintech, Retail, E-commerce and FMCG, Imran's strategic leadership has transformed Alt Labs into the go-to provider for startups to FTSE 100 companies. His extensive expertise encompasses Growth Hacking, Digital Transformation, Mobile Apps, SaaS, Big Data, and Web Development, demonstrating his ability to fuse pioneering strategies with practical solutions, which Microsoft and the BBC have featured.

As part of Imran's accomplishments at Alt Labs, he has become an integral pillar of the global tech startup community. His mentorship has nurtured the growth of more than 180 startups, guiding them in refining their technologies and securing more than £23million in contracts and VC funding.

In 2023, Imran launched Flok Co-Working Space in Teesside, a pioneering community of tech startups and established businesses looking at the future of office space. Flok hosted the first TedX Women outside of London in November 2023, with global speakers and an audience of 150 people.

Imran's visionary leadership has not only reverberated across SMEs and FTSE 100 institutions but has also been recognised nationally. Under his guidance, Alt Labs was honoured as the FSB's Largest Small Business of the Year 2023. Adding to its growing list of accolades, Alt Labs clinched the Tees Tech for Good award and Imran himself was celebrated as the Tees Valley BME Leader of the Year 2021.

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## **Paul Bell – Independent Member – Client Services Director, Better Agency**



Born, raised and educated in Teesside, Paul is a director and shareholder of the strategic brand agency, Better. For more than 16 years, his agency has been building remarkable brands rooted in relevant, evidence-based, strategic thinking from their studio in the heart of Middlesbrough.

From maritime and manufacturing to soft drinks and skincare, Better has partnered with a diverse range of local, national and international clients.

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**Mayor, Middlesbrough Council - Chris Cooke -**

Chris Cooke was elected Mayor of Middlesbrough in May 2023. Prior to politics, Chris worked in local schools after gaining his degree in IT from Teesside University. Subsequently, Chris was elected as a ward councillor where he proudly represented and served the Newport community. During his four years as a councillor, Chris also worked as a community cohesion coordinator where he supported some of the most vulnerable people living in Middlesbrough.

As Mayor, Chris is determined to make Middlesbrough a healthier, safer and more ambitious town. This will continue to facilitate a climate in which existing and new employees, employers and businesses in the Tees Valley can prosper.

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**Tony Grainge – Independent Member**





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Tony has a wealth of experience of working in the community for most of his working life. Most recently he has been working with the Tees Valley Community Church and helped to set up a community interest company and start a community café. He has extensive experience with the church and general youth work.

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## Riaz Hameed – Independent Member



Riaz is a seasoned professional with extensive experience in business management, regeneration, and community service. Throughout his career, he has demonstrated a deep commitment to social responsibility and urban development.

Riaz began his career by establishing a business in the hospitality and catering sector aged 20. Then, as a founding director of Hameed Holdings in 1997, he successfully managed multiple businesses, including providing serviced office accommodations, retail shopping parades, affordable housing schemes, Key Worker accommodation and hospitality venues.

From 1999 to 2006, he served as a Board Member and Director of the Middlesbrough Town Centre Company, helping facilitate substantial inward investment and job creation as a key decision maker in assessing grant applications for regeneration schemes – including a £249million inward investment project, creating 3,500 jobs. He has also been a panel member of organisations such as the Crime Reduction Partnership and was instrumental in launching the Middlesbrough Pub Watch scheme.

His drive to contribute to societal welfare led him to join the Lay Visitors Association (now the Independent Custody Visiting Association) at 21, becoming its youngest Vice Chair. This involved overseeing the welfare of detainees and providing critical advice to government and the local police authority. He was also a trustee of the West Middlesbrough Neighbourhood Trust from 2010 to 2013, ensuring the financial stability and governance of the organisation, which managed £52million in New Deal for Communities funding.

In addition to his professional endeavours, he an active member of the BAME community, bringing valuable diversity and insight to any board.

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## **Father Glyn Holland – All Saints Church - – Independent Member**



Canon Glyn Holland has been Vicar of All Saints in the heart of Middlesbrough town centre for 28 years. As well as his parish work and civic responsibilities, he has been closely involved in urban and economic regeneration. He was a Board Director of the Town Centre Company from its inception and served as Chair from 2001 until closure in 2007. He went on to Chair the Town Centre Partnership until 2016 and was also involved in scrutiny and evaluation of projects funded by SRB 6.

Glyn is involved in a number of community-based social action initiatives and has a real commitment to education as Chair of Governors at Archibald School and a Trustee of Endeavour Academies.

He is passionate about the town centre community and feels privileged to be part of a new chapter in the continuing emergence of Infant Hercules.

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## **Ben Houchen – Tees Valley Mayor**



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He is responsible for establishing the first Mayoral Development Corporation (South Tees Development Corporation - Teesworks) outside of London, second only to the Olympic Park – which was set up for the 2012 Olympics. The Development Corporation is responsible for the regeneration of the largest brownfield site in western Europe, which has attracted billions of pounds in foreign direct investment and is creating thousands of manufacturing jobs in industries like offshore wind, hydrogen and carbon, capture and storage. He has also created two more Mayoral Development Corporations to help regenerate Middlesbrough and Hartlepool town centres.

He has also helped to deliver national policies to help level up the country, including being one of the architects of the UK's Freeport policy. As a result, he was able to establish the UK's first and largest freeport – the Teesside Freeport. He also worked closely with Government to bring the newly established Treasury Economic Campus to Darlington, which is the premier home for the Treasury outside of London.

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**Martin Raby – Northern School of Arts – Independent Member**

Martin is a Chartered Accountant. He has worked in senior roles in further and higher education, and as a consultant for KPMG, for over three decades. He has been the Principal at The Northern School of Art since 2008, and gained a PhD based on a case study at the institution. The School is a specialist institution delivering further and higher education courses at campuses in Middlesbrough and Hartlepool. It holds Ofsted Outstanding ratings (2009, 2022) and Teaching Excellence Framework (TEF) Gold awards (2017, 2023).

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## **Stephanie Spensley – Independent Member**



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Stephanie was born and raised in Middlesbrough, currently living in Hilton Village, Yarm.

She previously worked as part of the secretarial team supporting Liaison Psychiatry in the NHS's community mental health teams.

With 14 years of professional experience in central Middlesbrough, she is excited to bring her knowledge and deep-rooted passion for the community as she has dedicated her career to enhancing the town she proudly calls home.

Since the closure of her businesses in March 2020 due to the pandemic, Stephanie undertook a new project and vision in the transformation of 1 Albert Road, Middlesbrough - formerly Spensleys Emporium - which is now Bloom Show Hall & Eaterie. The exciting and bold pioneering venue provides a creative space for artists from music, theatre, comedy backgrounds as well as serving as a crucial networking hub for local businesses. The Grade II building underwent extensive internal and external improvements,



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coinciding with the restoration of the historic quarter project, in conjunction with Middlesbrough Council & Historic Street Heritage Action Zone (HSHAZ).

Their second Covid project was the creation of Daisy Dukes Drive-In Cinema, growing from events in Redcar and Darlington to become the UK market leader. They also leased a new site in Ingleby Barwick to create Manjaros Kitchen and Cocktails - a great restaurant and takeaway business.

Their future projects include the expansion of Bloom, as they look forward to the final unveiling of Middlesbrough Historic Quarter with STACK, Middlesbrough Train Station and other exciting new businesses.

Stephanie and her husband have a lifelong goal to bring a rehabilitation centre into Tees Valley. From autumn Stephanie will work with CAP UK, providing debt help and support to those living in poverty via local churches.

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**Cleveland Police & Crime Commissioner (currently Matt Storey)**

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The role of the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) is to be the voice of the people and hold the police to account. They are responsible for the totality of policing. They are elected by the public to hold Chief Constables and the force to account, to cut crime, deliver an effective and efficient police service within their police force area, most importantly, making the police answerable to the communities they serve.

PCCs must ensure community needs are met as effectively as possible and are tasked with improving local relationships through building confidence and restoring trust. They work in partnership across a range of agencies at local and national level to ensure there is a unified approach to preventing and reducing crime.

Under the terms of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011, PCCs must:

- secure efficient and effective police for their area.
- appoint the Chief Constable, hold them to account for running the force, and if necessary, dismiss them.
- set the police and crime objectives for their area through a police and crime plan;
- set the force budget and determine the precept;
- contribute to the national and international policing capabilities set out by the Home Secretary; and
- bring together community safety and criminal justice partners, to make sure local priorities are joined up.



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With this in mind, it is clear that it is beneficial for the PCC to be a member of the Middlesbrough Development Corporation board.

The current Cleveland PCC Matt Storey was newly elected to the PCC position in May 2024. Matt has worked in the public sector for his entire career, in the Office of Dari Taylor, Member of Parliament for Stockton South, as an officer at Middlesbrough Borough Council and as Parliamentary Office Manager to Andy McDonald MP since 2012. Matt has since been a Councillor in Middlesbrough since 2016 representing Central Ward and was Labour Group Leader between 2019 and 2023 and Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Board until May 2024.

## Associate Members

Group Chief Executive (currently Julie Gilhespie)

Interim Chief Executive, Middlesbrough Council (Clive Heaphy)

Independent Adviser - Chief Constable of Cleveland Police (currently Mark Webster)

Middlesbrough Development Corporation Board - SKILLS MATRIX (+ Mayor + Leader)



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Board Member	Business Board Member (currently Anwar, Imran)	Bell, Paul	Grainge, Tony	Hameed, Riaz	Holland, Glyn	Raby, Martin	Spenceley, Stephanie	Storey, Matt (PCC)
<b>Expertise/Skill/Experience</b>								
Legal/Governance			✓					✓
Regulatory/Audit/Public policy						✓		✓
Financial/Accounting						✓		
Comms, marketing and PR	✓	✓						
CEO/Senior exec/leader of significant operations	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Commercial/Investment	✓	✓		✓			✓	
Regeneration				✓	✓			
Science/Engineering/Technology								
Net Zero								
Creative/Culture/Tourism		✓				✓	✓	
Business, Employment and Skills	✓	✓	✓			✓		
Transport/Infrastructure								
Voluntary/Third Sector			✓		✓			✓



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### FREEPORT BOARD

Chair	Ben Houchen	Mayor of Tees Valley
Member	Councillor Alec Brown	Leader RCBC
Member	Matthew Ord	TV Business Board Member (Vice Chair)
Member	STDC Board Member (TBC)	STDC Board Member
Member	Julie Gilhespie	Operator of Primary Customs Zone
Member	[TBC]	Sembcorp
Member	Shaun Casey	RBT
Member	Jerry Hopkinson	PD Ports
Member	Gary Dawson	Port of Middlesbrough
Member	Neil Etherington	Seaton Port
Member	Bill Scott	Port Clarence
Member	Chris Harrison	Teesworks