



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

**Wednesday, 3 July 2024 at 10.00am**

These Minutes are in draft form until approved at the next Overview and Scrutiny Committee and are therefore subject to amendments.

**Present:**

**Members**

Councillor Ian Haszeldine (Darlington Borough Council)  
Councillor Sonia Kane (Darlington Borough Council)  
Councillor Andy Keir (Darlington Borough Council)  
Councillor Rachel Creevy (Hartlepool Borough Council)  
Councillor John Nelson (Hartlepool Borough Council)  
Councillor Mike Young (Hartlepool Borough Council)  
Councillor Ian Blades (Vice Chair) (Middlesbrough Council)  
Councillor David Branson (Middlesbrough Council)  
Councillor Dennis McCabe (Middlesbrough Council)  
Councillor Craig Hannaway (Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council)  
Councillor Margaret O'Donoghue (Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council)  
Councillor Glyn Nightingale (Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council)  
Councillor Lynn Hall (Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council)  
Councillor Steve Nelson (Chair) (Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council)  
Councillor Tony Riordan (Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council)

**In Attendance**

Gary Macdonald	Group Director of Finance and Resources, TVCA
Tom Bryant	Director of Infrastructure, TVCA
Shona Duncan	Head of Business Solutions, TVCA
Emma Simson	Acting Group Chief Legal Officer and Monitoring Officer, TVCA
Guy Close	Governance and Scrutiny Manager, TVCA
Connor Malone	Governance and Scrutiny Officer, TVCA

<p><b>OSC 01/24</b></p>	<p><b>Appointment of Chair and Vice-Chair</b></p> <p>Members were invited to nominate for Chair and Vice Chair of Overview and Scrutiny Committee for the 2024/25 municipal year.</p> <p><b>Resolved that:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) That Councillor Steve Nelson be appointed as Chair of Overview and Scrutiny Committee and Councillor Blades as Vice Chair of Overview and Scrutiny Committee for the 2024/25 municipal year.</li> <li>b) That the above appointments be ratified at the Cabinet meeting on 19 July 2024.</li> </ul>
<p><b>OSC 02/24</b></p>	<p><b>Apologies for Absence and Notification of Substitutes</b></p> <p>Apologies for absence were received from the Tees Valley Mayor, Deputy Mayor, and the Group Chief Executive.</p>
<p><b>OSC 03/24</b></p>	<p><b>Declarations of Interest</b></p> <p>There were no declarations of interest.</p>
<p><b>OSC 04/24</b></p>	<p><b>Minutes</b></p> <p>Councillor Glyn Nightingale reported that his name had been spelt incorrectly.</p> <p><b>Resolved:</b> That subject to the above amendment, the minutes be approved as a correct record.</p>
<p><b>OSC 05/24</b></p>	<p><b>Work Programme</b></p> <p>Members received a report from the Governance and Scrutiny Manager which presented an initial draft work programme for 2024/25. The report included responses from Cabinet members on the proposed work programme, subject to the Committee agreeing on areas to review.</p> <p>The report noted the intention for the Committee to establish a Sub-Committee in relation to Finance and Resources to consider budget proposals as part of the overall budget consultation process.</p> <p>The Chair suggested that the Committee received an update on implementation of the Scrutiny Protocol at its September meeting. To aid Members that were new to the Committee it was considered beneficial to provide all members of the Committee with the agenda, reports and minutes of the Scrutiny Protocol Sub-Committee session that took place in April 2024.</p>

The following key areas were considered by the Committee:

## Review of Transport

Members considered the connected nature of different transport operations, with a particular focus on roads, buses and rail operations. It was noted that as part of the agenda pack, the Committee had been provided with responses from Cabinet members on suggested issues to review.

## Education, Skills, and Employment

Members highlighted a growing disconnect between individuals and skills required by Business, partly due to the growth in technology.

Several areas were suggested for inclusion as part of the review as follows:

- **Adult/ Youth skills programmes:** Work being done to support adults and young people through the skills budgets.
- **Transport / Skills:** Members noted that the two areas were linked, enhanced transportation supported access to employment and skills. Members discussed that transport should not be a barrier to opportunities.
- **Job Creation / Skills gap:** Members were keen to explore the potential for job creation within the region and the skills gap.

Members were advised that the broad themes were to be agreed by the Committee and it was the role of the Sub-Committees to undertake in-depth review work and report back to the Committee to consider its findings and agree a way forward.

The Committee agreed to undertake two in-depth reviews as follows:

- 1) Transport; and
- 2) Education, Employment, and Skills.

The following membership was agreed:

### **Sub-Committee for Transport (5)**

Councillor David Branson (Chair)  
Councillor John Nelson  
Councillor Sonia Kane  
Councillor Andy Keir  
Councillor Carl Hannaway

	<p><b><u>Sub-Committee for Education, Employment, and Skills (6)</u></b></p> <p>Councillor Rachel Creevey (Chair)  Councillor Ian Haszeldine  Councillor Dennis McCabe  Councillor Lynn Hall  Councillor Margaret O'Donoghue  Councillor Ian Blades</p> <p><b><u>Sub-Committee for Finance and Resources (5)</u></b></p> <p>Councillor Haszeldine (Chair)  Councillor Andy Keir  Councillor John Nelson  Councillor Glyn Nightingale  Councillor Tony Riordan</p> <p>It was reported that the next step was for a presentation / information session to be provided at the October Committee meeting setting out the key areas for consideration prior to more in-depth scrutiny to be undertaken by the Sub-Committees.</p> <p><b>Resolved:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) That the Scrutiny Protocol be considered at the September Committee meeting (previously the October Committee meeting) and the work programme be amended accordingly.</li> <li>b) That the agenda, reports and minutes of the Scrutiny Protocol Sub-Committee session that took place in April 2024 be shared with all Members of the Committee.</li> <li>c) That the Committee undertakes two in-depth reviews in 2024/25 in relation to Transport, and Education, Employment, and Skills (plus one on Finance and Resources as part of the budget consultation process).</li> <li>d) That membership of the Sub-Committees (as set out above) in relation to 1) Transport; 2) Education, Employment and Skills; and 3) Finance and Resources, be approved.</li> <li>e) That officers from Transport and Education, Employment, and Skills provide a presentation / information session to the Committee in October 2024, content to be agreed in consultation with the Chairs of the Sub-Committees.</li> </ul>
<p><b>OSC 06/24</b></p>	<p><b>Delegated Decisions</b></p> <p>Members received a report detailing the delegated decisions made by the Combined Authority covering the period March 2024 – May 2024.</p>

	<p><b>Resolved:</b> That the Committee notes the report.</p>
<p><b>OSC 07/24</b></p>	<p><b>Legal Advice Sought</b></p> <p>It was noted that there had been a request for additional legal advice to confirm the remit of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee to scrutinise the work of Development Corporations.</p> <p>Members were advised that instructions to Bevan Brittan had been drafted and were to be circulated to all members of Overview and Scrutiny Committee following a discussion with the Chair of Overview and Scrutiny Committee.</p>
<p><b>OSC 08/24</b></p>	<p><b>Date and Time of Meetings for 2024/25:</b></p> <p>Members were provided with a proposed schedule of meetings for 2024/25.</p> <p><b>Resolved:</b></p> <p>That the following schedule of meetings be approved:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wednesday, 4 September 2024</li> <li>• Wednesday, 16 October 2024</li> <li>• Wednesday, 6 November 2024</li> <li>• Wednesday, 15 January 2025</li> <li>• Wednesday, 9 April 2025</li> </ul> <p>(All the above meetings to commence at 10.00a.m.)</p>