
TEES VALLEY COMBINED AUTHORITY BOARD

**Cavendish House, Teesdale Business Park, Stockton-on-Tees at 10.00am on
Friday, 13 January 2017**

ATTENDEES

Members

Mayor David Budd (Chair)	Mayor of Middlesbrough
Councillor Bill Dixon	Leader of Darlington Borough Council
Councillor Christopher Akers- Belcher	Leader of Hartlepool Borough Council
Councillor Sue Jeffrey	Leader of Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council

Paul Booth	Chair of Tees Valley Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP)
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Substitute Member

Councillor Jim Beall	Deputy Leader of Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council
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Associate Members

Phil Cook	Member of Tees Valley LEP
Alastair MacColl	Member of Tees Valley LEP
David Robinson	Member of Tees Valley LEP
David Soley	Member of Tees Valley LEP

Apologies for absence

Councillor Bob Cook	Leader, Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council
Paul Croney	Member of Tees Valley LEP
Ian Kinnery	Member of Tees Valley LEP
Nigel Perry	Member of Tees Valley LEP

Officers

Gill Alexander	Chief Executive of Hartlepool Borough Council
David Bond	Monitoring Officer, Tees Valley Combined Authority
Sarah Brackenborough	Governance Manager, Tees Valley

Ada Burns	Combined Authority Chief Executive of Darlington Borough Council
Alison Fellows	Investment Director, Tees Valley Combined Authority
Andrew Lewis	Managing Director, Tees Valley Combined Authority
Tony Parkinson	Interim Chief Executive of Middlesbrough Council
Craig Peacock	Marketing Manager, Tees Valley Combined Authority
Neil Schneider	Chief Executive of Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council
Amanda Skelton	Chief Executive of Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council

TVCA 66/16 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

David Robinson declared an interest in Agenda Item 7 – Establishing the South Tees Development Corporation.

TVCA 67/16 MINUTES

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 2 November 2016 be confirmed as a correct record.

TVCA 68/16 ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE CHAIR

The Chair confirmed that all matters were covered on the agenda.

TVCA 69/16 RECENT GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Board considered a report that provided an overview of recent government announcements which impacted on the responsibilities of the Tees Valley Combined Authority. In summary the report highlighted new financial announcements, and government's response to areas where TVCA had submitted proposals.

The following comments were noted:

- Of the 12 announcements made nationally on successful bids to the Large Local Majors Programme, 2 were in the Tees Valley. Funding would be provided for business case development of the A66 East West Connectivity and the additional Tees Crossing;

- Disappointment was expressed that more resource for economic development had not been made available to local areas in the Chancellor's Autumn Statement;
- The announcement to allow Combined Authorities borrowing powers was welcomed. It was noted that careful consideration to the best use of borrowing would be given through the TVCA Investment Plan which was due to be presented to the Board in March 2017.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

TVCA 70/16 COMBINED AUTHORITY CONSTITUTION AND STATUTORY FRAMEWORK

The Board considered a report that sought the Combined Authority's consent to the Tees Valley (Functions and Amendment) Order, before the legislation was laid before parliament. The Order formed a critical element of the implementation of the Tees Valley devolution deal. It had already been approved in principle by the five constituent authorities, with final confirmation delegated to their Chief Executives in consultation with Leaders.

The Board noted the strong progress that had been made towards implementation of the Mayoral Combined Authority.

RESOLVED that the Tees Valley Combined Authority:

1. Consents to the Tees Valley (Functions and Amendment) Order being laid before parliament;
2. Notes the development of a new Combined Authority Constitution to ensure that decision-making under the Mayoral model meets the principles of transparency, cooperation and partnership.

TVCA 71/16 ESTABLISHING THE SOUTH TEES DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

David Robinson declared an interest as a business within the proposed site boundary of the South Tees Development Corporation.

The Board considered a report that detailed progress with the legislation and powers relating to Mayoral Development Corporations (MDCs) and the consultation that had been launched on the application of the new powers to the South Tees area, which includes the site of the former SSI Steelworks.

It was noted that the draft legislation for MDCs was about to be considered in Parliament and this was the first time the power would be available to any area outside of London. The agreement to extend these powers represented a major new responsibility for the Tees Valley Combined Authority, and a potentially significant opportunity to accelerate growth and development, delivering additional jobs.

TVCA had identified the South Tees area as an area in which an MDC should be created. As part of this process TVCA needs to consult people and organisations that may be affected, including local councils and MPs. The consultation has now been launched with a closing date of the 10th March. The results of the consultation would be brought to the March meeting of the Board.

The following comments were made:

- The ongoing discussions with government on the arrangements for the former SSI Steelworks site needed to proceed with pace;
- Proposals to extend government commitment to fund the security and safe management of the former SSI site to the end of the current parliament were being discussed;
- The support for skills and education, to ensure good quality jobs on the site, should be a high priority;
- TVCA were currently exploring the option to provide a working capital loan to support the transition to the South Tees Development Corporation. At an appropriate stage it will be necessary to reach agreement on a more extensive financial settlement with government, to ensure the site can secure future opportunities for growth.

RESOLVED that the Tees Valley Combined Authority:

1. Notes the progress in the parliamentary process to provide TVCA with the powers to establish Development Corporations;
2. Notes the consultation to apply these new powers to the South Tees area, creating a South Tees Development Corporation;
3. Agrees to consider the results of the consultation at the March meeting of the Board.

TVCA 72/16 TEES VALLEY AREA REVIEW OF 16+ EDUCATION AND SKILLS PROVISION: FINAL REPORT AND IMPLEMENTATION STAGE

The Board considered a report that summarised the results and recommendations of the recent Area Review of 16+ Education and Skills Provision across Tees Valley. The Department for Education (DfE) had now published the final report which made a number of recommendations, some of which applied directly to the Combined Authority. The Board considered these recommendations.

The Board commented that a key challenge would be to ensure that the full scope of provision across further education was considered in an appropriate way.

RESOLVED that the Tees Valley Combined Authority:

1. Notes the recommendations of the Area Review; and the objective to ensure the longer term viability of the sector; the capacity to meet future demand; financial stability; and that a high quality of learning and skills provision is available to learners across the Tees Valley;
2. Takes a leading role in supporting partners to deliver a realistic timetable for implementation of those recommendations;
3. Leads the process to establish an Education and Skills Joint Venture Trust (or similar arrangement) for Tees Valley, and bring forward proposals for agreement between the Combined Authority and FE providers.

TVCA 73/16 TVCA EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT AND SKILLS (EES) PARTNERSHIP BOARD

The Board considered a report that set out recommendations for the establishment of a new governance structure relating to Education, Employment and Skills for the Combined Authority. The EES Partnership Board would advise TVCA on education, employment and skills related issues, in particular those relating to the proposed Devolution Agreement with Government.

At the first meeting of the Partnership Board in November it had been agreed that an additional elected Member should be on the Partnership Board and an appropriate representative for the health sector.

The following comments were made:

- TVCA should commit further resource and capacity to an in depth evaluation of investment and the impact it is having on addressing the skills gap in key sectors, to help steer delivery over the longer term;
- Strong leadership and the capacity to deliver would be critical to the successful delivery of the aims and ambitions;
- There needs to be recognition that change will not be seen immediately and bold decisions will need to be made;
- The Partnership Board would be key to overall leadership and driving forward change but the establishment of working groups below this would ensure the detailed focus needed to deliver the different work streams.

RESOLVED that the Tees Valley Combined Authority:

1. Approves the establishment of the Education Employment and Skills Partnership Board and the associated work streams;
2. Directs the Managing Director to deliver a programme of analysis and evaluation of investment in skills, to identify the impact on addressing the skills gap in key sectors, to help steer delivery over the longer term.

TVCA 74/16 TEES VALLEY MEMBERSHIP OF THE URBAN TRANSPORT GROUP

The Board considered a report that detailed the intention of the Combined Authority to become an Associate Member of the Urban Transport Group.

The Urban Transport Group (UTG) was an influential organisation which promotes the interests of Britain's largest urban areas on transport. Traditionally membership of the UTG had been made up of the large Passenger Transport Executives and Integrated Transport Authorities but the organisation was now open to extend membership to Combined Authority areas. As a new Combined Authority with formal transport responsibilities, there would be significant benefits if the Tees Valley joined the UTG.

It was noted that Associate Membership for the Tees Valley could act as a stepping stone towards Full Membership, should that be considered appropriate.

RESOLVED that the Tees Valley Combined Authority:

1. Joins the Urban Transport Group, initially on an Associate Member

- basis;
2. Upgrades to full membership at an appropriate point in the future, at a point determined by the Managing Director in consultation with the Portfolio Member for Transport, if doing so provides a cost effective means of promoting the Combined Authority's transport objectives;
 3. Nominates the Portfolio Member for Transport as the Tees Valley's representative in the political governance of the Urban Transport Group.

TVCA DATES OF THE NEXT MEETINGS
75/16

The date of the next meetings on 31st January 2017 at 10am, 22nd February 2017 at 10am and 22nd March, 2017 at 9am were noted.