
TEES VALLEY COMBINED AUTHORITY BOARD

**Cavendish House, Teesdale Business Park, Stockton-on-Tees at 10.00am on
Tuesday, 31 January 2017**

ATTENDEES

Members

Mayor David Budd (Chair)	Mayor of Middlesbrough
Councillor Bob Cook	Leader, Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council
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)

Associate Members

Phil Cook	Member of Tees Valley LEP
Paul Croney	Member of Tees Valley LEP
David Robinson	Member of Tees Valley LEP
David Soley	Member of Tees Valley LEP

Apologies for absence

Alastair MacColl	Member of Tees Valley LEP
Nigel Perry	Member of Tees Valley LEP

Officers

David Bond	Monitoring Officer, Tees Valley Combined Authority
Sarah Brackenborough	Governance Manager, Tees Valley Combined Authority
Ada Burns	Chief Executive of Darlington Borough Council
Alison Fellows	Investment Director, Tees Valley Combined Authority
Catherine Gordon	Communications Manager, Tees Valley Combined Authority
Andrew Lewis	Managing Director, Tees Valley Combined

Chris Little	Authority Director of Finance & Policy, Hartlepool Borough Council
Fran Manancourt Rob Mitchell	Strategic Transport Planning Officer (Item) Head of Policy & Performance, Redcar & Cleveland Borough Council
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
Keith Wilson	Economic Strategy & Intelligence Manager, Tees Valley Combined Authority (Item)

TVCA 76/16 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were declared.

TVCA 77/16 MINUTES

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 13 January, 2017 be confirmed as a correct record.

TVCA 78/16 ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE CHAIR

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

TVCA 79/16 BUDGET REPORT

The Board considered the budget for the Combined Authority for 2017/18. A period of consultation on the budget had now commenced. Following the consultation period, the Budget report would be brought back to the Board meeting on 22nd March for final approval.

A slightly updated version of the Treasury Management Strategy was circulated at the meeting. The Board noted that further discussions would need to take place on the Combined Authority's approach to the new borrowing powers. The Treasury Management Strategy would then need to be updated and brought back to the Board for approval.

The Board discussed the estimated Mayoral Election costs and supported the position of the returning officer in continuing to review the arrangements to ensure costs were kept as low as possible.

The Board also highlighted the importance of the recyclable development fund in helping to support the delivery of the future pipeline of proposals.

RESOLVED that:

1. The core budget, including the allocation of £2.394m from devolved

funds, form the basis of consultation ending 3rd March and that an updated version be presented to the Board on 22nd March 2017;

2. The funding for the Mayoral Election be approved;
3. Paragraphs 14 to 27 of the report and the updated Combined Authority Resource position at Appendix A be noted;
4. The allocation of capital funding for highways for 2017/18 to Local Authorities, in line with paragraph 20 of the report, be approved;
5. £1.2m of repaid Growing Places Funding be transferred to the Development Fund, in line with paragraph 30 of the report;
6. The virement and new allocation of SSI resources, as presented in paragraph 35 of the report, be approved;
7. The Treasury Management Strategy, as updated at the meeting, be approved; and
8. Public Sector Appointments Ltd be approved to make the external audit appointment for the Combined Authority.

TVCA 80/16 TEES VALLEY APPRENTICESHIPS GRANT FOR EMPLOYERS

The Board considered a report that examined progress to date with the delivery of the Tees Valley Apprenticeship Grant for Employers (AGE) programme and set out proposals for the delivery of the next tranche of the funding.

It was noted that local delivery of the grant had significantly increased the uptake of apprenticeship grants, had been successful in attracting more micro and small enterprises and had increased the number of level 3 and above apprenticeships achieved. Unprecedented demand for the grant had meant that the first tranche of funding was fully committed by November 2016, and additional funding was required to meet the demand for the programme.

The Board made the following comments:

- It was vital to institute a comprehensive analysis and evaluation of all the Combined Authority's skills interventions, and to ensure that wider impacts were properly captured;
- There was a strong case for continuing to provide a higher level of support for apprenticeships that met the needs of the key sectors within the Strategic Economic Plan, with possible enhancements to the level of grant offered for those apprenticeships within key sectors.

Councillor Sue Jeffrey proposed an amendment to the recommendation in the report to remove reference to the figure of £2,036,000. This was agreed and the Managing Director indicated that the Combined Authority would ensure that delivery of the grant would support the delivery of the Strategic Economic Plan.

RESOLVED that :

1. The performance of the programme to support SMEs to deliver apprenticeships, through devolved arrangements, be noted; and
2. The original budget of £1,536,000 financial support from the Skills Funding Agency be extended to accommodate the high level of demand, and be aligned to the needs of the Strategic Economic Plan.

TVCA 81/16 INVESTING IN SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT

The Board considered a report that presented the proposals for investment of the Tees Valley Sustainable Access to Employment Programme 2017/18 – 2019/20 and the supportive revenue funding for the same period. It was noted that the revenue element was subject to the outcome of a bid to the Department for Transport's Access Fund.

The Board noted the importance of the schemes and the linkages between housing and key employment sites. The Board requested that full details of each scheme be circulate to members.

RESOLVED that:

1. The remainder of the Tees Valley Sustainable Access to Employment Programme, up to 2019-20, be approved and the approval of individual projects within this programme be delegated to the Managing Director, in consultation with the Transport and Infrastructure Group; and
2. Investment of supportive revenue funding up to 2019-20 be approved, subject to the success of our bid to government.

TVCA 82/16 APPOINTMENTS

The Board considered a report that set out nominations for the Land Commission and the Independent Remuneration Panel.

RESOLVED that the nominations to the Land Commission and Independent Remuneration Panel be approved, as follows:

Land Commission:

Chairman, Mayor David Budd (Chair, Tees Valley Combined Authority)
Councillor Chris McEwan (Darlington Borough Council)
Councillor Kevin Cranney (Hartlepool Borough Council)
Councillor Charles Rooney (Middlesbrough Borough Council)
Councillor Lynn Pallister (Redcar & Cleveland Borough Council)
Councillor Nigel Cooke (Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council)

Independent Remuneration Panel:

Councillor Paul Baldwin (Darlington Borough Council)

TVCA 83/16 DATES OF THE NEXT MEETINGS

22nd February 2017 and 22nd March 2017.