

AGENDA ITEM 3**REPORT TO THE TEES VALLEY
COMBINED AUTHORITY CABINET****28 JUNE 2019****REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE****ANNUAL MEETING GOVERNANCE AND APPOINTMENTS****SUMMARY**

This report details a number of items for agreement and confirmation by the Combined Authority Cabinet at its Annual General Meeting (AGM).

RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Combined Authority Cabinet:

- i. agrees the appointments as set out at Appendix 1;
- ii. agrees the members' allowances scheme for 2019-20 at Appendix 2;
- iii. agrees the Mayoral Allowance;
- iv. approves the proposal to extend the term of LEP Board members who have already completed their initial two year term.

DETAIL

1. There are a number of items of business that the Combined Authority Cabinet is required to confirm at the AGM, and these are set out below.

Appointments

2. The Cabinet is recommended to agree a number of appointments to its statutory committees for the municipal year 2019-20. The appointments schedule at Appendix 1 details nominations to the statutory committees. It also details the proposed make-up of non-statutory/advisory Board appointments, external appointments and statutory officers.
3. In summary, appointments are being made to the following statutory Committees:

- **Deputy Mayor** – under our Constitution, the role of Deputy Mayor circulates annually amongst the Council Leaders. In line with this rotation, Cllr Shane Moore, Leader of Hartlepool Borough Council, is nominated as the Deputy Mayor for the 2019-20 municipal year.
- **Cabinet** – the Cabinet is the decision making body for the Combined Authority. The Mayor chairs the Cabinet, made up of the five Constituent Authority Leaders, and the Chair of the LEP as a non-voting member.
- **Overview and Scrutiny Committee** – this statutory committee reviews the policies and operations of the Combined Authority, ensuring effective democratic scrutiny of decisions. Members have been appointed by each of the constituent authorities, on the basis of political balance as set out in the constitution.
- **Transport Committee** – this statutory committee reviews transport strategy and policies of the Combined Authority and makes recommendations to Cabinet. Members are drawn from the executive member with transport responsibilities from each constituent authority, plus a private sector LEP member to be determined.
- **Audit and Governance Committee** – this statutory committee assures sound governance and financial management of the Combined Authority. Members have been appointed from each constituent authority, on the basis of political balance, plus 3 independent members.

Other non-statutory/advisory groups:

- **Land Commission** – The Land Commission was established in May 2017 to review opportunities for brownfield & publicly owned land. Following extensive work, proposals were put forward to government for additional funding powers. However, despite engagement at both officer and political level, disappointingly Government were clear that current policy was not to offer further devolution in this area. The policy position is being kept under review and as required, a meeting of the Land Commission will be convened.
- **Education, Employment and Skills Partnership Board** – this board brings together partners to provide strategic oversight on policies improving educational outcomes, enhancing skills and helping people into work.
- **Culture and Tourism Thematic Partnership Board** - this board brings together partners working to improve the Tees Valley's cultural offer and to boost visitor numbers, including the bid to be City of Culture 2025.
- **Innovation Task Group** –experts on innovation and technology who provide expertise and guidance on specific initiatives and policies as part of the Tees Valley's industrial strategy. The group does not meet on a formal basis, but its membership makes up specific task and finish and advisory groups as required.

- **Transport Advisory Group** – this group brings together officers and partners with responsibilities for the Tees Valley’s transport infrastructure.
- **Business Compass Steering Group** - the group oversees the Tees Valley’s business growth services.

Local Enterprise Partnership Membership

4. The Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) is the Tees Valley’s principal forum for collaboration between the regional public and private sectors. LEPs exist across England as part of a national network, but uniquely in the Tees Valley this partnership is strengthened by its integration within the decision-making structures of the Combined Authority, with LEP members also Associate Members of the Tees Valley Combined Authority Cabinet.
5. In September 2018, the Combined Authority Cabinet committed to achieving a 50/50 gender balance and to increase overall diversity on the LEP by 2020. This is over and above the targets set in the Government’s ‘Strengthened Local Enterprise Partnerships’ review of the same year. A recruitment campaign was undertaken in autumn 2018, with communication of the LEP Board vacancies targeted at under-represented groups. This culminated in the appointment of an additional 3 female private sector LEP Board members - Brenda McLeish (Learning Curve Group), Vikki Jackson-Smith (J&B Recycling) and Annabel Turpin (Stockton ARC). Over the coming year, further work will be undertaken to increase the diversity of LEP Board membership.
6. As part of the Strengthened Local Enterprise Partnerships’ review, the LEP has also this year formalised an open and transparent process for appointing the Chair and appointed a Deputy Chair.
7. The LEP Board membership also includes a representative from the Tees Valley Further Education (FE) sector and a Business Representative Organisations Observer, with the respective representatives confirmed annually.
8. The FE College Principals have confirmed that Zoe Lewis, Principal of Middlesbrough College, has been nominated as their representative for the coming academic year. She will replace Darren Hankey, Principal of Hartlepool College.
9. As stated in paragraph 50 of the Tees Valley Combined Authority Constitution, LEP Board members’ terms of office are for two years, with an option to extend for a further two years. The following members were appointed in May 2017 and have now reached the end of their initial two year term:-
 - Paul Booth;
 - Jerry Hopkinson;
 - Mike Matthews;

- Angela Howey;
- Siobhan McArdle;
- Alby Pattinson;
- Graham Robb;
- David Soley;
- Nigel Perry.

10. It is proposed that these members continue in their position for a further year only, during which time overall membership of the LEP Board will be reviewed and further action taken to achieve our ambitions of attaining greater membership diversity, particularly the ambition for achieving a 50/50 gender balance by 2020. Cabinet's approval is sought for this proposal.

Appointments to External Bodies

11. The appointment schedule also proposes Tees Valley representation on a small number of external bodies; including Transport for the North, European Structural Investment Fund sub-committee (constituted by the government as managing authority for European Union funding) the Local Government Association and the Key Cities network.

Officer Groups

12. The Combined Authority supports a range of officer groups which ensure coordination between the authority and its constituent councils. The arrangements for officer coordination are continually reviewed to ensure that effective communication and close partnership arrangements are maintained between officers on all aspects of the Combined Authority's responsibilities.

Statutory Officers

13. It is proposed that Andrew Nixon of Redcar and Cleveland Council continues to fulfil the role of Monitoring Officer for the time being. The workload and complexity of this role has changed over the last two years as the Combined Authority has grown and so it is intended to bring this role in house in the coming year.

14. The Cabinet is recommended to formally agree the appointments as presented in Appendix 1.

15. Under our constitution, members of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and the Audit and Governance Committee are invited to propose their own Chairs and Vice-Chairs. Recommendations for these appointments will therefore be brought to a future Cabinet for confirmation, following committee meetings.

Members Allowances Scheme and Mayoral Allowance

16. The Mayor's allowance is set following the recommendation to Cabinet by the Independent Remuneration Panel. The principle, established in 2017, is that the Mayoral Allowance is set at an average of the allowances provided to the Leaders of the five Constituent Authorities, reflecting the principle of collective decision making

established by the Combined Authority. The Panel agreed last year that the principle established in 2017 will continue to apply for the remainder of the current Mayoral term.

17. The Independent Remuneration Panel will meet again to consider the allowance that would be applicable for the Mayor that will be elected in May 2020. Professional, independent advice looking at Mayoral allowances in detail will be commissioned to be considered at this meeting. A recommendation will then be made to Cabinet, for consideration before the point at which candidates for the 2020 mayoral election would be selected.
18. Members' travel and subsistence allowances for the year 2019- are detailed in Appendix 2.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

19. Support for the governance of the Tees Valley Combined Authority is provided from within the Authority's core budget, as agreed by Cabinet through the annual budget process, and funded through resources devolved from central government.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

20. The report relates to the Constitution of the Combined Authority which sets out the appropriate statutory framework. The Constitution came in to effect on 8th May 2017 and is legally binding.

RISK ASSESSMENT

21. This report is categorised as low to medium risk. Existing management systems and daily routine activities are sufficient to control and reduce risk.

CONSULTATION & COMMUNICATION

22. The five Constituent Local Authority Leaders have been appropriately consulted on appointments, and nominations have been made through each council. The Mayor has also been consulted on these proposals.

EQUALITY & DIVERSITY

23. As detailed in paragraph 5 above there is a commitment from Cabinet to achieve a 50/50 gender balance and to increase overall diversity on the LEP by 2020. Overview & Scrutiny Committee have also carried out a study into a perceived lack of diversity in gender, sexuality, disability and ethnicity in the membership of the Tees Valley Combined Authority Cabinet and Committee membership. This study is now complete and findings and recommendations from this will be presented to Cabinet in July.

LOCAL ENTERPRISE PARTNERSHIP

24. The items in this report have been circulated to LEP members in advance of coming forward to Cabinet.

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