

# Tees Valley Combined Authority Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Agenda

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**Date:** Thursday, 18th June, 2020 at 2.00 pm

**Venue:** Microsoft Teams Live Event

## Membership

Cllr Stephenson (Chair) (Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council)  
Cllr Rooney (Vice Chair) (Middlesbrough Council)  
Cllr Barlow (Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council)  
Cllr Black (Hartlepool Borough Council)  
Cllr Brown (Hartlepool Borough Council)  
Cllr Clark (Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council)  
Cllr Harker (Darlington Borough Council)  
Cllr Hobson (Middlesbrough Council)  
Cllr Jeffrey (Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council)  
Cllr Jones (Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council)  
Cllr Jones (Darlington Borough Council)  
Cllr Loynes (Hartlepool Borough Council)  
Cllr Renton (Darlington Borough Council)  
Cllr Riordan (Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council)

## AGENDA

### PUBLIC

**1 Apologies for absence**

**2 Declarations of interest**

Tees Valley Combined Authority Declaration of Interest Procedure  
attached [Page 1]

**3 Minutes**

Minutes of the meeting held on 17th October 2019

Minutes attached [Page 3]

**4 Chief Executives Update**

Chief Executive's Update attached [Page 7]

**5 STDC Update**

# Tees Valley Combined Authority Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Agenda

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STDC Update attached [Page 11]

## **6 Overview & Scrutiny Committee Annual report**

Overview & Scrutiny Committee Annual report attached [Page 15]

## **7 Delegated Decisions March-June 2020**

Delegated Decisions attached [Page 19]

## **8 Meetings & Forward Plan**

Meetings & Forward Plan attached [Page 23]

## **9 Date & Time of Next Meeting**

13th August 2020 at 10.30 am

### **Members of the Public - Rights to Attend Meeting**

With the exception of any item identified above as containing exempt or confidential information under the Local Government Act 1972 Section 100A(4), members of the public are entitled to attend this meeting and/or have access to the agenda papers.

Persons wishing to obtain any further information on this meeting, including the opportunities available for any member of the public to speak at the meeting; or for details of access to the meeting for disabled people, please

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## **Tees Valley Combined Authority Declaration of Interests Procedures**

1. The purpose of this note is to provide advice and guidance to all members (the Mayor, elected and co-opted members, substitute members and associate members) of the Combined Authority Cabinet, Sub-Committees and Local Enterprise Partnership Board, on the procedure for declaring interests. The procedure is set out in full in the [Combined Authority's Constitution](#) under the "Code of Conduct for Members" (Appendix 8).

### **Personal Interests**

2. The Code of Conduct sets out in full, the principles on the general conduct of members in their capacity at the Combined Authority. As a general principle, members should act impartially and should not use their position at the Combined Authority to further their personal or private interests.
3. There are two types of personal interests covered by the constitution:
  - a. "disclosable pecuniary interests". In general, a disclosable pecuniary interest will involve any financial interests, such as paid employment or membership of a body, interests in contracts, or ownership of land or shares. Members have a pecuniary interest in a matter where there is a reasonable likelihood or expectation that the business to be considered will affect your well-being or financial position, or the well-being or financial position of the following persons:
    - i. a member of your family;
    - ii. any person with whom you have a close association;
    - iii. in relation to a) and b) above, their employer, any firm in which they are a partner, or a company of which they are a director;
    - iv. any person or body in whom persons described in a) and b) above have a beneficial interest in a class of securities exceeding the nominal value of £25,000; or
    - v. any body as described in paragraph 3 b) i) and ii) below.
  - b. Any other personal interests. You have a personal interest in any business of the Combined Authority where it relates to or is likely to affect:
    - i. any body of which you are a member (or in a position of general control or management) and to which you are appointed or nominated by the Combined Authority;
    - ii. any body which:
      - exercises functions of a public nature;
      - is directed to charitable purposes;
      - one of whose principle purposes includes influencing public opinion or policy (including any political party or trade union) of which you are a member (or in a position of general control or management).

### **Declarations of interest relating to the Councils' commercial role**

4. The constituent councils of the Combined Authority are closely integrated with its governance and financial arrangements, and financial relationships between the Combined Authority and Councils do not in themselves create a conflict of interest for Council Leaders who are also Combined Authority Cabinet members. Nor is it a conflict

of interest if the Combined Authority supports activities within a particular council boundary. Nevertheless, there are specific circumstances where the Cabinet is considering entering into direct contractual arrangements with a council, for example in relation to a particular commercial investment project, or in which that council is a co-funder. In these circumstances a non-pecuniary declaration of interest should be made by the Council Leader or their substitute.

### **Procedures for Declaring Interests**

5. In line with the Code of Conduct, members are required to adhere to the following procedures for declaring interests:

#### **Register of Interests**

6. Each member is required to complete a register of interests form with their personal interests, within 28 days of their appointment to the Combined Authority. Details of any personal interests registered will be published on the Combined Authority's website, with the full register available at the Combined Authority's offices for public inspection. The form will be updated on an annual basis but it is the responsibility of each member to notify the Monitoring Officer of any changes to the register throughout the year. Notification of a change must be made to the Monitoring Officer within 28 days of becoming aware of that change.

#### **Declaration of Interests at Meetings**

7. The Combined Authority will include a standing item at the start of each meeting for declaration of interests. Where members are aware that any of their personal interests are relevant to an item of business being considered at a meeting they are attending, they must declare that interest either during the standing item on the agenda, at the start of the consideration of the item of business, or when the interest becomes apparent, if later.
8. Where members consider that their interest could be considered by the public as so significant that it is likely to prejudice the members' judgement then they may not participate in any discussion and voting on the matter at the meeting, but may attend the meeting to make representations, answer questions or give evidence relating to the business, before it is discussed and voted upon.
9. If the interest is a disclosable pecuniary interest (as summarised in paragraph 3a) then the member must leave the meeting room during discussion and voting on the item of business, but may make representations, give evidence and answer questions before leaving the meeting room. Failure to comply with the requirements in relation to disclosable pecuniary interests is a criminal offence.

### **Sensitive Information**

10. Members can seek the advice of the monitoring officer if they consider that the disclosure of their personal interests contains sensitive information.

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## Tees Valley Combined Authority Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Meeting held at Cavendish House, Teesdale Business Park, Stockton-On-Tees, TS17 6QY at 09:30 am on Thursday, 17th October, 2019.

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### Present:

Cllr Stephenson (Chair) (Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council)  
Cllr Rooney (Vice Chair) (Middlesbrough Council)  
Cllr Black (Hartlepool Borough Council)  
Cllr Brown (Hartlepool Borough Council)  
Cllr Clark (Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council)  
Cllr Harker (Darlington Borough Council)  
Cllr Hobson (Middlesbrough Council)  
Cllr Jeffrey (Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council)  
Cllr Loynes (Hartlepool Borough Council)  
Cllr McTigue (Middlesbrough Council)  
Cllr Renton (Darlington Borough Council)  
Cllr Riordan (Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council)

### Officers:

Sharon Jones (Governance & Scrutiny Officer - TVCA)  
Julie Gilhespie (Chief Executive -TVCA)  
Tom Bryant (Head of Transport & Infrastructure -TVCA)  
Andrew Nixon (Monitoring Officer -TVCA)

### Also in attendance:

Cllr Heather Scott (Leader) (Darlington Borough Council)

### Apologies for absence:

Cllr Barlow (Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council)  
Cllr Jones (Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council)  
Cllr Jones (Darlington Borough Council)

## 1 Declarations of interest

There were no interests declared.

## 2 Election of Chair and Vice Chair

Cllr Norma Stephenson was nominated by Cllr Denise Rooney as Chair of the Committee. This was seconded by Cllr Sue Jeffrey.

Cllr Stephenson was appointed as Chair of the Committee.

Cllr Denise Rooney was nominated by Cllr Sue Jeffrey as Vice Chair of the Committee. This was seconded by Cllr Stephen Harker.

Cllr Rooney is appointed as Vice Chair of the Committee.

## 3 Minutes

The minutes from the previous meeting were accepted as a true record

#### **4 Chief Executive's Update**

A report was circulated updating members of the Committee on significant recent developments at the Tees Valley Combined Authority and informing them of the items on the agenda for the next Cabinet meeting on 25th October.

A question was raised regarding the confidential Cabinet papers and whether the Committee are entitled to have sight of these reports. It was confirmed by the Monitoring Officer that the Committee are entitled to see confidential papers where the information contained within them is relevant to an action or a decision that Members are reviewing or scrutinising, or where it relates to a review contained in the work programme of the Committee.

RESOLVED that the Chief Executive's update is noted.

#### **5 Strategic Transport Plan**

The Committee received a presentation from Tom Bryant, Head of Transport & Infrastructure and Cllr Heather Scott, Portfolio Holder for Transport. The presentation gave an overview of the Strategic Transport Plan. The plan has been drafted in conjunction with the five Local Authorities.

A discussion took place following the presentation and the following points were covered:

- Access for disabled passengers and those travelling with pushchairs should be a priority within the plan. Although Billingham Station is the only station in the North East with no disabled access there are others which have limited or restricted access. The Connect TV map will be reviewed to see if this can show what level of access each station within Tees Valley has currently.

- Timescale for the plan – there are currently no dates on the plan. There are also no targets showing against the objectives to allow for monitoring of progress. It was explained that the Plan is a ten year plan covering 2020-2030 but that it will be regularly reviewed over this period and will need to be responsive to change. Targets will be written into the plan further down the line but at this stage it is deemed still too early to set specific targets.

- Prioritising Funding – It was explained that the plan is currently being reviewed so that priorities can be set, and highlighted, in advance of submission to Cabinet in January 2020.

Bus services -The aspiration for bus services in the future is to be able to provide demand responsive services which allow for travel for both work and social purposes. There will need to be some work carried out regarding funding in this area as Bus Operators will only provide services where it is commercially viable for them. It is not yet know how this funding will be provided, but any decisions made in this area will be subject to the Combined Authority decision making process.

RESOLVED that the presentation is noted.

**6 Delegated Decisions**

A report was circulated detailing the delegated decisions signed off by the Combined Authority between April-October 2019.

The Committee expressed an interest in learning more about the Strength in Places Fund for a Hydrogen Economy Project. It was agreed that this should be added to the forward plan for the Committee and Chris Beck, Director of Business & Skills be invited to deliver a presentation on this topic.

RESOLVED that the report is noted.

**7 Meetings and Forward Plan for Civic Year 2019/2020**

A meeting will be scheduled as soon as possible between the Chair, Vice Chair and Scrutiny officer to agree a meeting schedule and forward plan for the Committee.

The Finance Sub-Committee role was explained and a meeting of this group will be convened in line with the budget setting process.

**8 Date and time of next meeting**

Next meeting TBC





**AGENDA ITEM 4****REPORT TO THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE****18th JUNE 2020****REPORT OF CHIEF EXECUTIVE****UPDATE FROM CHIEF EXECUTIVE****SUMMARY**

This report updates members of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee on significant recent developments at the Tees Valley Combined Authority, in addition to further verbal updates to be provided at the meeting.

**DETAIL****RESPONDING TO THE COVID-19 OUTBREAK**

1. This is a difficult time for many individuals, families and local businesses in the Tees Valley and around the globe. The Mayor and Combined Authority would like to thank the key workers across our region for their efforts in keeping essential services running across the private, public and other sectors.
2. In our role as the lead regional agency for economic development, the Combined Authority is responding to the COVID-19 outbreak and disruption by analysing its potential economic impact; providing business support, signposting and advice; reporting business intelligence to government; and Economic Recovery Planning.
3. The full nature of the economic impacts resulting from the coronavirus pandemic and the associated containment measures that have been introduced across the world are yet to be fully understood. It is however expected that they will require a response of unprecedented scale and scope.
4. Building on the Combined Authority's existing business support role, the Combined Authority has established a 24/7 Business Support Helpline to act as a single point of contact for Tees Valley companies and individuals in relation to COVID-19 and the support available to them. To date almost 1500 enquiries have been received.
5. We have also launched the Buy Local Tees Valley website to connect local people with businesses and tradespeople that have remained open, or are operating differently, during the outbreak. Over 500 businesses are now registered.
6. Other activity involving the Combined Authority, working with our partners, includes:
  - Surveying almost 1000 businesses to enable us to understand in detail the effects the pandemic has had and may continue to have on Tees Valley businesses and the short, medium and long-term support they need

- Shortening payment terms from the normal 30-day process, to ensure companies in the private sector are paid as soon as possible. The Tees Valley Mayor has also strongly encouraged other public sector organisations to do the same.
  - Purchasing 100,000 bottles of hand sanitiser for distribution across the region. 70,000 bottles have already been distributed to care workers, schools, charities, community groups, social workers and other at-risk key workers with the help of our local authorities.
  - The Tees Valley Mayor has also publicly called on regional businesses to donate unused or excess personal protective equipment (PPE) to frontline hospital and healthcare staff.
  - Daily contact with central government to influence and shape the national response.
7. As we move towards the recovery phase, the Combined Authority is now developing approaches to support recovery and longer-term resilience of the Tees Valley economy and working with our partners to develop a package of targeted measures to help businesses impacted by the pandemic to recover quickly, to be resilient to future shocks and to help them grow.

#### **TEESIDE INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT**

8. Teesside International Airport has announced it plans to re-open it's doors to passengers from 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2020. The airport was temporarily closed to passengers due to the Covid 19 outbreak as the safety and health of local people and airport staff had to be paramount.
9. In addition to re-opening it's doors the Airport has also announced a new route to Newquay to be launched on 6<sup>th</sup> July. Eastern Airways will operate a once-a-day flight on Mondays and Fridays to the hugely popular holiday destination.
10. The previously announced flights to London City Airport will also begin on 6 July and will run daily on Mondays and Friday, and twice-daily on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays.
11. Airport Management are currently working on a revised business plan, which will be presented to the Airport Board for approval in July and subsequently to TVCA Cabinet, as a confidential item, for information.

#### **MAY CABINET**

12. A Cabinet meeting took place on 29<sup>th</sup> May. The following items were on the agenda:
- Mayor's update - a general update on the key activities of the Mayor and Combined Authority since the last Cabinet meeting, which are not covered in other reports to this meeting.

- South Tees Development Corporation Governance Report – an update to the TVCA Group Governance arrangements, incorporating the necessary amendments to give effect to the evolving Group structure and STDC Board composition.
- Response to the Government's Freeports Consultation - The Tees Valley Mayor and Combined Authority's proposed response to the Government's Freeports Consultation.
- Transport Investment Prospectus - Combined Authority proposition for a share of the five-year transport funding settlement for eight Mayoral Combined Authorities announced in the Budget.

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## **AGENDA ITEM 5**

### **REPORT TO THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

**18th JUNE 2020**

### **SOUTH TEES DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION UPDATE**

#### **SUMMARY**

The purpose of this paper is to update the Overview and Scrutiny Committee on the key activity within STDC.

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

It is recommended that the Overview and Scrutiny Committee notes the content of this update report

#### **BUSINESS CASE**

1. The STDC Business Case for £71m of Government funding towards demolition and site remediation was approved in principal earlier this year and is a key part of a wider funding strategy for the site which underpinned the successful CPO announced recently.
2. In respect of the £71m, STDC is now in the final stages of approval of the Full Business Case which focusses on the delivery of the plan and articulates the long – term development programme for the site.
3. BEIS/Treasury approvals will need to be supported by STDC and STSC Boards as well as TVCA Cabinet. Once this is achieved, it is expected that STDC will be able to purchase the shares of STSC and transition to local ownership.
4. In parallel STDC is currently working with STSC to accelerate on-site delivery and is about to submit a number of planning applications in advance of programme activity commencing. In addition, enabling work has started at two key strategic sites to flatten the ground in preparation for development.

#### **COMMERCIAL**

5. In general, the level of commercial activity continues to be high, with delivery for the market critical. The site has not yet been marketed directly and the level of unsolicited interest received is encouraging.
6. The commercial team is currently working to integrate our approach to potential customers, sharing enquiries and delivering proposals that represent best value for all.

7. Discussions have continued with several prospective tenants with draft Heads of Terms under negotiation with three potential customers and several projects are expected to progress to Heads of Terms in the coming months
8. Several of the projects identified have common requirements including high power connections and unrestricted port connectivity. In support of these requirements a tender process has been undertaken to procure a technical specialist to develop detailed specification for high voltage infrastructure and discussions are underway with Sembcorp around the diversion of pipe infrastructure to improve port access from the site.

## PROGRAMME DEVELOPMENT

9. A programme has now been prepared and published defining the planned delivery timescales for the projects to be executed over the coming three to four years. The programme is aligned with STDC's business case to Government.
10. Key projects in the 2020/21 financial year are
  - **Prairie Site** – Highway Access (new roundabout) and Phase 1 Site Preparation.
  - **Metals recovery area** - Advance earthworks and site clearance activities commenced in March 2020 and are well progressed.
  - **South Bank area/ South Bank Wharf** – The majority of the required supply chain to deliver the various consultancy services and surveys for the marine works consents is in place and environmental impact assessment work is underway to support a planning application later this calendar year.
  - **Net Zero Teesside** - STDC and NZT have established joint Technical Working Group, to explore delivery of the project.
  - **Pipeline diversion for port access**- STDC is working with Sembcorp and the respective apparatus operators to develop the feasibility study and plan of works for potential execution at the next available shutdown. A completion by 06 September 2021 has been targeted.
  - **Demolition of Oil Wharf Tank Farm** -. STDC will remove residual heavy fuel oil from the tanks across the summer and demolition is scheduled to commence September/ October 2020
  - **Demolition / Decontamination** – extensive work has been undertaken with STSC on repurposing the decontamination and demolition programme to ensure that both can be delivered in accordance with the required timelines for delivery of the investment projects.

## CPO

11. The CPO order has been approved in full with no reservations. The intention is to vest the land as soon as possible, which is likely to mean that we can start to take

possession of land from September this year. There is a significant administrative burden to vesting 173 individual land interests and so a plan has been produced that means we will vest in potentially three tranches;

- the first tranche being SSI land and interests to allow us to take ownership of the land and release the OR from the site;
- the second tranche being other interests with no time constraints associated with them; and
- the third tranche being interests (if any) where we need to reserve a commercial position before vesting.

#### **GOVERNANCE/HR**

12. Following the resignation of the CEO, a review has been undertaken of the structure of STDC within the context of the wider TVCA group. Accordingly the STDC board approved proposed amendments to Group governance arrangements and roles and responsibilities of senior officers.

#### **FINANCE AND BUDGETS**

13. STDC's Budget for the year ending 31 March 2020 and medium- term financial plan for the three years to 31 March 2023 were approved by STDC's Board at the June board meeting.
14. The budget comprises expenditure of £40.7m, a significant uplift in activity following conclusion of CPO legal proceedings allowing the STDC Group to focus upon development of its post CPO land acquisition strategy and programme of works thereon.

#### **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

15. Whilst matters with financial implications are discussed in this report, this update report has no specific financial implications

#### **LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

16. Whilst matters with legal implications are discussed in this report, this update report has no specific legal implications

#### **RISK ASSESSMENT**

17. This update report has no specific risk implications

#### **CONSULTATION & COMMUNICATION**

18. This paper has been prepared directly from separate reports prepared by the Senior Management team of STDC. As the purpose of this report is to provide updates/ information no further consultation has been undertaken/ is necessary.

#### **EQUALITY & DIVERSITY**

19. No specific impacts on groups of people with protected characteristics have been identified

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**AGENDA ITEM 6****REPORT TO THE TEES VALLEY  
OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE****18<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2020****REPORT OF CHAIR OF OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE****OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT****SUMMARY**

This report summarises the work of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee for the period of May 2019 to April 2020.

Once agreed this report will be presented to Cabinet by the Chair of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee.

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

It is recommended that the Overview & Scrutiny Committee agree the report for submission to Cabinet at the July meeting.

**DETAIL****THE COMMITTEE**

1. The Overview and Scrutiny Committee consists of 15 members, 3 nominated from each Constituent Authority. The Committee is required, as far as reasonably practical, to reflect the balance of political parties of the Constituent Authorities collectively.
2. The objective of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee is to scrutinise and support the decision-making of the Combined Authority Cabinet and the Tees Valley Mayor.
3. This includes:
  - monitoring the decisions or other actions taken by the Cabinet and/or Mayor and submitting reports and making recommendations for improvements or change
  - Reviewing the Strategies and policies of the Combined Authority and holding the Mayor, other Cabinet members, and officers, to account for their delivery.
4. The Committee has the power to “call-in” for review or scrutiny decisions made by the Combined Authority before they are implemented.
5. The Chair of the Committee for the period of 2019-2020 has been Councillor Norma Stephenson OBE, Stockton Borough Council. The Vice-Chair has been Councillor Denise Rooney, Middlesbrough Borough Council.

6. For the period of May 2019- April 2020 the Committee had 5 meetings scheduled. The exceptional circumstance surrounding the outbreak of Covid 19 in March 2020 meant that both the March and May 2020 meetings were cancelled. The Committee will next meet on the delayed date of 18<sup>th</sup> June 2020.
7. In addition to the ordinary meetings Members have also met for one additional meeting, which was scheduled due to a Call in by the Committee.
8. The Committee have therefore met 4 times during the period of May 2019 – April 2020.
9. The Committee have continued to utilise the smaller task & finish group to focus on financial aspects of the Combined Authority. The group met to scrutinise the proposed budget.
10. The Chief Executive provides a written update of key activities undertaken by the Combined Authority in advance of each meeting and attends the meetings to give a verbal update and answer any questions. There is also the facility for the committee to provide written questions to the Chief Executive in advance of meetings.
11. The Committee has utilised its power of “call-in” once in the period of May 2019-April 2020. This was in relation to changes to the Constitution. The Call in was not upheld as the meeting to agree this was inquorate.
12. Of the 4 meetings held to date 2 of these, this includes the call-in meeting, have not been quorate and therefore no decisions could be made. Attendance has continued to be an issue at meetings.
13. The Chair has expressed her disappointment with regard to quorum issues on a number of occasions and has requested that the issue of substitute members be looked into once again. She has written, and received a response from, Robert Jenrick, MP regarding this matter and it has been agreed that a change to the constitution can be made to allow the Overview & Scrutiny Committee to operate with substitute members.

## **2019-2020 WORK PROGRAMME**

14. The Committee have carried out their Overview and Scrutiny duties in some of the key areas of Combined Authority business.

- i. **Portfolio Updates**

The Committee received a full update from the Portfolio holder in each of the following areas of Combined Authority business:

- Culture, Tourism & Innovation – Cllr Shane Moore

For this briefing the Committee were presented with a paper giving a full overview of the work ongoing and priorities in this Portfolio area. The Portfolio holder attended the meeting of the Committee to answer questions and provide any further information where requested.

- Transport – Cllr Heather Scott

The Committee received a presentation from Tom Bryant, Head of Transport & Infrastructure and Cllr Heather Scott, Portfolio Holder for Transport. The presentation gave an overview of the Strategic Transport Plan.

Updates for Education, Employment & Skills and for the LEP were scheduled for the March meeting. Update papers were circulated to the Committee and Cllr Cook and Paul Booth were scheduled to attend to answer any questions. The meeting was subsequently cancelled due to Covid 19.

**ii. South Tees Development Corporation**

The Committee have had regular updates from the Chief Executive with regard to the progress of the South Tees Development Corporation. They have had the opportunity to ask questions regarding the Corporation and request further information where required. The Governance relationship between the Tees Valley Combined Authority and South Tees Development Corporation has been explained and the Committee are aware that any decisions which may result in a financial, environmental or statutory liability to the Combined Authority must be referred to Cabinet for ratification. In this scenario it would then be permissible for the Overview & Scrutiny Committee to scrutinise such decisions.

**iii. Budget**

The committee continue to utilise the smaller “Finance and Resources Sub-Committee” task and finish group to look at matters relating to the Budget and Financial aspects of TVCA.

Membership of this Committee consists of 5 councillors representing 3 of the 5 Constituent Authorities. The Chair of the Committee is Cllr Denise Rooney of Middlesbrough Borough Council.

Questions from the Overview & Scrutiny Committee members regarding the budget for 2020-2021 were collated by Cllr Rooney and these were put forward to the Director of Finance and Resources at a meeting designated specifically for budget scrutiny. The sessions allowed the questions to be answered in detail and further information to be provided where necessary. A full report was provided to the Overview & Scrutiny Committee at their January meeting but as the meeting was not quorate the report was not approved for submission to Cabinet for consideration.

**iv. Durham Tees Valley Airport**

Kate Willard from Stobart attended a meeting of the Committee to give a verbal update on progress with the Airport. She was able to provide an overview of progress to date, planned future developments and also answer questions from Committee members.

**v. Scrutiny Study: Diversity in the Tees Valley Combined Authority membership**

In June 2018 the Committee agreed to the Combined Authority Cabinet's request that an Overview & Scrutiny Study be carried out into the diversity of the membership of the Cabinet and Statutory Committees of the Tees Valley Combined Authority. A working group, consisting of the Chair and Vice Chair of the Committee and Cllr Matthew Storey, supported by the Combined Authority Strategy Director and Governance & Scrutiny Officer, was established to carry out this study. Extensive research and evidence gathering was carried out by the working group and a draft report was compiled. The draft report was agreed by the former members of the Committee, but membership then changed and when presented to the new Committee questions regarding the detail and recommendations within the study were raised. After discussion a vote was taken as to whether the report is agreed for submission to Cabinet. It was decided by a majority vote not to progress the report at this stage.

## **2019 - 2020 WORK PROGRAMME**

15. The work programme for 2020 – 2021 is to be agreed. A discussion on the priorities and work programme for these meetings will be taking place at the first meeting of the Committee following the AGM. A work programme for the year ahead will be drafted following this meeting.

## **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

16. None

## **LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

17. None

## **RISK ASSESSMENT**

18. Not Applicable

## **CONSULTATION**

19. Not Applicable

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REPORT TO THE OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

18<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2020

REPORT OF CHIEF EXECUTIVE

DELEGATED DECISIONS MARCH – JUNE 2020

SUMMARY

The table below shows the Delegated Decisions signed off by the Combined Authority between March 2020 and June 2020

RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Combined Authority Overview & Scrutiny Committee note the table below.

DETAIL

1. The table below shows the Delegated Decisions signed off by the Combined Authority between March 2020 – June 2020.

Title	Amount	Date signed	Key Decision
<p><b>Darlington Station - urgent land acquisition (<i>key decision made previously</i>)</b> Approval of funding in advance of the final appraisal of the Darlington Station Business Case. This funding will be released to Darlington Borough Council. There are a number of sites identified for acquisition to help ensure the 'Station Gateway' elements of the overall scheme can be delivered to the Transforming Cities Fund (TCF) timeframe (31/01/23). There is an immediate opportunity to complete the acquisition of key sites by agreement with the owner. A collaboration agreement and funding agreement is in place between TVCA and Darlington Borough Council to jointly purchase sites as required.</p>	182,976	05/03/20	No
<p><b>Teesside University STDC Gateway Project (<i>key decision made previously</i>)</b> The Innovation Programme includes a project led by Teesside University to create an innovation and incubation hub, based on the existing Materials Processing Institute (MPI) campus, focused on clean growth, hydrogen and the circular economy. This will deliver a "gateway" to the wider STDC. This project is currently at an early stage in its development and intensive development is required over the next 6 months including design of the capital build. This decision is to commit an advance of the TVCA allocation to accelerate this work and meet the ERDF deadline. TVCA is working collaboratively with Teesside University to develop this business case and ERDF application.</p>	350,000	05/03/2020	No
<p><b>Animex 2020 marketing &amp; communication (<i>key decision made previously</i>)</b> The Business Growth Programme includes an allocation of £1.7m for Strategic Marketing of Tees Valley. A business case is</p>	40,000	10/03/20	No

Title	Amount	Date signed	Key Decision
currently being produced that considers a programme of strategic marketing across the organisation. Part of this programme will be to support events that contribute to our strategic marketing aims including attracting investment and local skills development in key sectors. In advance of this business case an opportunity has arisen to support the Animex 2025 Vision with Teesside University. The 2025 vision is to be delivered in three phases.			
<p><b>Darlington Link Road Development Funding (<i>key decision made previously</i>)</b></p> <p>An enhanced Strategic Outline Business Case (SOBC) for the Darlington Northern Link Road has been produced. This is in effect an Outline Business Case (OBC), but without a definitive delivery/commercial case and with a value for money assessment that reflects the current scheme and its relationship to housing proposals in North Darlington. The supporting technical information for a full OBC hasn't been developed to the same level as the New Tees Crossing scheme, principally because there have been a lot more changes to the potential alignment of the new road and significant modelling validation work. The programme for the work to be completed is end of January 2021 to enable the submission of a full OBC to Government in advance of the anticipated March 2021 budget.</p>	250,000	11/03/20	Yes
<p><b>Culture &amp; Tourism Programme Northern Film &amp; Media</b></p> <p>A commitment was made to Tees Valley Screen in 2018 which was intended to be a three-year programme of Screen Industries Development in Tees Valley. Insufficient budget was available to commission all three years and so a first year of activity was agreed with the intention of funding the further two years from the new Culture Programme which was expected to have been agreed in 2019.</p> <p>After an extremely positive 'pilot' year, Northern Film + Media have developed strong plans for further activity across years 2 &amp; 3. This aligns with wider regional activity to grow Screen Industries, such as the new film studios in Hartlepool for which this programme will support essential pipeline development. There is also strong connectivity with Middlesbrough's continued commitment to growing digital strengths, including its leading work in animation.</p> <p>Advance funding is required to deliver year 2 and year 3 which will safeguard jobs and match-funding and ensure momentum is maintained.</p>	203,165	19/03/20	Yes
<p><b>Riverside Northshore Project SBC (<i>key decision made previously</i>)</b></p> <p>The 10-year Investment Plan 2019-2029 included up to £20million for the 'Riverside Northshore Development'. £5m (25%) is sought as advance funding for Stockton Borough Council to progress the relocation of businesses in preparation for the redevelopment of the High Street, which is to be considered under delegated arrangements as set out in the Assurance Framework. The advance funding will allow preparatory works to be undertaken.</p>	5,000,000	20/03/20	No
<p><b>Business Growth Programme (<i>key decision made previously</i>)</b></p> <p>The Business Growth Programme forms a 10 year £35m TVCA investment programme. The programme will be supported by a further £61.2m of other funds, including ERDF funding and private sector match to create an overall programme value of £96.2m. The Programme aims to adopt a joined-up approach towards Business Support in the Tees Valley in order to lever growth. As such, the programme has been designed around a 'Business Gateway' service which will provide a single access</p>	34,999,579	20/03/20	No

Title	Amount	Date signed	Key Decision
<p>point to the full range of business support that is available to Tees Valley businesses replacing and enhancing the existing 'Growth Hub'. In short, the Business Growth Programme will provide for the following services:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Business Diagnostic and Signposting;</li> <li>• Specialist Mentoring/Training/Consultancy (Wraparound support); and</li> <li>• Access to finance (grants, loans and equity)</li> </ul> <p>Following successful appraisal and in line with the Assurance Framework this Delegated Decision provides approval of the Business Case and commits £35m of TVCA funding for its delivery.</p>			
<p><b>Innovation Programme – Sector Networks (key decision made previously)</b></p> <p>Within the Innovation Programme an allocation of £2.18m to support Innovation infrastructure activities was identified, this included £740,000 to establish and coordinate key industrial sector groups and develop large scale proposals over 4 years. There is a need to leverage the work of our regional industrial networks to promote the region both within government and also as an attractor for inward investment in the immediate term so as not to miss funding opportunities.</p> <p>This delegated decision for advanced funding will allow expenditure on developing our regional networks to ensure the programme of activity will operate within the timescales set out in the forthcoming Business Case, prior to the full approval of the Business Case.</p>	185,000	24/03/20	No
<p><b>Rail Projects - Consultancy (key decision made previously)</b></p> <p>There is a need to procure consultancy support for the development of Business Cases for the various Tees Valley rail priorities. Within the Investment plan there are financial allocations to each of the rail priorities as set out below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Darlington Station: £25m</li> <li>• Middlesbrough Station: £22.5m</li> <li>• Additional Rail Priorities: £1.5m for Hartlepool Station capacity development work (the strategic programme case will include this intervention along with additional interventions to address the other constraints identified by Network Rail).</li> </ul> <p>This delegated decision for advanced funding will allocate financial resource allowing expenditure on the development of these respective Business Cases. Upon the completion of full Business Cases projects will be administered and approved under the Combined Authority's Assurance Framework as named priority projects.</p>	44,760	26/03/20	No
<p><b>Darlington Station Project - Design works (key decision made previously)</b></p> <p>This decision is to approve a further £710,500 of Investment Plan funds in advance of the final appraisal of the Darlington Station Business Case. This funding will be released to Darlington Borough Council in line with the collaboration and funding agreements that are already in place between Darlington Borough Council and the Combined Authority in respect of the project. The funding will be used to progress the design of the station gateway element of the scheme.</p>	710,496	11/05/20	No
<p><b>Concessionary Bus fares</b></p> <p>The proposal is to agree to continue reimbursing bus operators for concessionary trips at the level prior to the downturn in passenger numbers as a result of COVID-19. The agreed settlement figures were based on actual passenger numbers for the last 12 months. The COVID-19 National Emergency has meant that passenger numbers on buses have</p>	16,000,000	11/05/20	Yes

Title	Amount	Date signed	Key Decision
<p>fallen dramatically, with reductions of up to 90% being reported by operators. However, the Department for Transport (DfT) has stated in a number of recent letters that “we would also urge you to continue to pay operators for concessionary fares at levels before any downturn”. This is also the approach being adopted by the significant majority of other local authorities across the country, albeit some on a time limited basis allowing for a further review of their position.</p> <p>This approach should ensure that key bus services keep running during the COVID-19 period enabling essential travel to work or to buy food. It will also support the longer-term viability of buses in Tees Valley by helping to ensure that the recognised network is still in place once the COVID-19 period is over.</p>			

2. All key decisions are sent to the Overview & Scrutiny Committee within 2 days of being made. All other delegated decisions are provided for information at their next scheduled meeting.

### FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

3. There are no direct financial implications arising from this report. The report derives from the Constitution and Assurance Framework for the Combined Authority, which have embedded within them the statutory financial regulations.

### LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

4. The Report derives from the Constitution and the Assurance Framework for the Combined Authority which sets out the appropriate statutory framework and is legally binding.

### RISK ASSESSMENT

5. The report is categorised as low risk. Existing management systems and daily routine activities are sufficient to control and reduce risk.

### CONSULTATION & COMMUNICATION

6. Not Applicable

### EQUALITY & DIVERSITY

7. Not Applicable

### LOCAL ENTERPRISE PARTNERSHIP

8. Not Applicable

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## Tees Valley Combined Authority Overview & Scrutiny Proposed Work Programme 2020/2021

### Standing Items

Minutes from the Previous Meeting  
Announcements from the Chief Executive  
Delegated Decisions  
Forward Plan  
Date and Venue of the Next Meeting

<b>Overview &amp; Scrutiny Committee</b>		
<b>Date</b>	<b>Venue</b>	<b>Item / Responsible Officer</b>
18th June 2020 at 2pm	Microsoft Teams Live Event	Overview & Scrutiny Committee Annual Report  STDC Update
13 <sup>th</sup> August 2020 at 10.30am	TBC	Teesside International Airport Update
12 <sup>th</sup> November 2020 at 10.30am	TBC	TBC
11 <sup>th</sup> February 2021 at 10.30am	TBC	TBC

### Proposed Items to be scheduled

- Annual Financial Statements & Annual Report
- Combined Authority Budget – Quarterly updates
- Portfolio Lead updates
- Updates from Finance and Resources Sub Committee (where applicable)

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