

## Tees Valley Combined Authority Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Agenda

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**Date:** Thursday, 5th August, 2021 at 10:00 am

Venue: Cavendish House, Teesdale Business Park, Stockton-On-Tees, TS17

6QY

## Membership

Cllr Stephenson (Chair) (Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council)

Cllr Hobson (Vice Chair) (Middlesbrough Council)

Cllr Barlow (Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council)

Cllr Branson (Middlesbrough Council)

Cllr Harker (Darlington Borough Council)

Cllr Harrison (Hartlepool Borough Council)

Cllr Hobson (Middlesbrough Council)

Cllr Jones (Darlington Borough Council)

Cllr Jones (Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council)

Cllr Loynes (Hartlepool Borough Council)

Cllr Renton (Darlington Borough Council)

Cllr Riordan (Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council)

Cllr Smith (Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council)

Cllr Wells (Redcar and Cleveland 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 Thursday, 11th March, 2021

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## 4 Appointment of Chair and Vice Chair

## 5 Group Chief Executive's Update

Group Chief Executive Update attached

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# Tees Valley Combined Authority Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Agenda

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## 6 Culture Programme Update

Presentation

## 7 Delegated Decisions

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8 Forward Plan

Forward Plan attached [Page 23]

CONFIDENTIAL

## 9 STDC Quarterly Monitoring Report

Presentation

## 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

Contact: Sharon Jones Governance and Scrutiny Officer Tees Valley Combined Authority 01642 524580 Sharon.jones@teesvalley-ca.gov.uk

## **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 <a href="Combined Authority">Combined Authority</a>'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:
    - 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).

#### <u>Declarations of interest relating to the Councils' commercial role</u>

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 cofunder. 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. If no declaration is received from elected members within 28 days the matter may be referred to the Head of Paid Service of your local authority and Leader of the political group you represent on your council for action. If a Declaration is not submitted within an appropriate timescale you may be prevented from attending committee meetings.
- 7. 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**

- 8. 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.
- 9. 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.
- 10. 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**

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

## **Tees Valley Combined Authority Overview and Scrutiny Committee**

## Microsoft Teams meeting Thursday, 11th March, 2021 at 10:00 am.

#### Present:

Cllr Stephenson (Chair) (Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council)

Cllr Hobson (Vice Chair) (Middlesbrough Council)

Cllr Barlow (Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council)

Cllr Harker (Darlington Borough Council)

Cllr Jeffrey (Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council)

Cllr Jones (Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council)

Cllr Culley(Darlington Borough Council)

Cllr Renton (Darlington Borough Council)

Cllr Riordan (Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council)

Cllr Rooney (Middlesbrough Council)

Cllr Wells (Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council)

#### Officers

Gary Macdonald - Group Director of Finance and Resources Alison Fellows - Group Director of Commercial and Delivery Chris Beck - Director of Business and Skills Peter Judge - Group Chief Legal Officer (Monitoring Officer) Sharon Jones - Governance & Scrutiny Officer Sally Henry - Governance Officer

#### Also in attendance:

### Apologies for absence:

Cllr Rathmell (Middlesbrough Council)
Cllr Loynes (Hartlepool Borough Council)
Cllr Jones (Darlington Borough Council)

OSC Declarations of interest

27/20 Cllr Culley declared an interest as a TIAL reserve Board Member.

**OSC** Minutes

28/20 Minutes of last meeting and matters arising

The Chair informed the Committee that she has contacted The Mayor regarding 2 matters. Firstly regarding Chair & Vice Chair of this Committee being allowed to remain in Cabinet meetings for confidential items. Secondly to request that a member of this Committee is given a seat on the Freeport Board once it is established. No response has been received to either of these requests as of yet. These will be chased again with the Mayor's office.

OSC 21/20 - A response was provided to a Member question relating to Airline subsidy information. This was circulated to Members as a follow up action, but it is felt this does not answer the question that was asked. Further information on airline incentivisation to be provided. Action AF.

OSC 21/20 – The minute states that Devolution funding is not the only pot with flexibility. This needs to be amended to state Devolution funding is the only pot with total flexibility.

Resolved that with the amendments made as noted the minutes of the meeting on 7th January 2021 were agreed as a true record.

## OSC Group Chief Executive Update

**29/20** A report was provided detailing the key activity of the Combined Authority since the last meeting.

Discussion took place around the following areas:

Number of jobs to be created across Tees Valley in line with the Investment Plan - Reports regarding Investment Plan progress are point in time reports so currently numbers of jobs reported will relate to the construction and set up stage but as projects progress the numbers will change as we move to outputs and operational stages. Announcements regarding job numbers give the total anticipated numbers but these should be broken down into the different stages of construction and operation. The impact of Covid has meant jobs have been lost in areas where it wasn't expected but there is a lot of work ongoing to try to retain and create jobs. Foundations are being put in place via Teesworks, clean growth, offshore wind etc. to help us to create more jobs and to make these jobs accessible at all levels. Teesworks academy has been set up to link future jobs to current training courses so when the jobs arrive the right people are available locally to fill these.

Buy local Tees Valley - How is success of the businesses that have signed up to this being measured? Data will be reviewed and shared with the Committee following the meeting. Action CB.

The Cultural Development & Innovation Fund - more information regarding which businesses have benefitted from the fund will be circulated after the meeting. Action AF.

Tees Valley-wide Creative Education Partnership - more information to be provided on the expected future costs of this project. Action AF.

Resolved that the detail of the report is noted.

## OSC Investment Plan Delivery Update - Q2

**30/20** An Investment Plan delivery update paper was circulated.

Discussion took place around the following areas:

The target within the Investment Plan to create 25,000 jobs - Press report figures for newly created jobs add up to more than the 25,000 target but TVCA will continue to report against this target as that's what was set at the start of the plan. It's possible that figures may stagger over the next few years, but reporting will continue to show the target, and how we are performing against that. It will be factually correct at each point in time. We are only in year 2 of the Investment plan so it is still very early days and there are the consequences of

the Covid pandemic and economic recovery plans to consider. TVCA will continue to develop proposals and business cases to work towards achieving the 25,000 jobs target.

Apprenticeships - The number of apprenticeships created has been provided. Data regarding the number of dropouts against these figures is to be circulated following the meeting. Action CB

Resolved that the detail of the report is noted.

## **OSC** Delegated Decisions

A report was circulated detailing the Delegated Decisions made by the Combined Authority since the last meeting.

Resolved that the details of the report are noted.

## OSC Meetings & Forward Plan

**32/20** The next meeting is set to take place on 20th May, which is post election.

STDC quarterly monitoring report is an agenda item for May. It was agreed that this report should incorporate delivery against planned progress. Action GM.

Resolved that the detail is noted

## OSC Freeport Bid

The Chair passed a resolution to exclude the press and public under paragraph 3 of schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

A paper regarding the Freeport Bid and supporting documents were circulated to the Committee. A presentation was delivered to explain the detail of the Freeport bid.

Resolved that the detail of the report is noted.

**AGENDA ITEM 5** 

## REPORT TO THE TEES VALLEY COMBINED AUTHORITY OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

5th AUGUST 2021

#### REPORT OF THE GROUP CHIEF EXECUTIVE

#### **GROUP CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S UPDATE**

#### **SUMMARY**

This report provides a general update on the key activities of the Combined Authority since the last Committee meeting, which are not covered in other reports to this meeting.

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

It is recommended that the Committee notes the details of the report.

#### **DETAIL**

## **COVID-19 RESPONSE**

- The Combined Authority continues to work closely with our partners to facilitate and deliver responses to help businesses manage the ongoing impact of the pandemic, whilst also supporting re-opening of the economy and planning for longer-term recovery.
- 2. We continue to act as regional collator of business and economic intelligence, providing local intelligence and economic analysis to ensure that government is aware of the impacts of Covid-19 on our economy and to help shape the national response.
- 3. We have made the following interventions to support businesses and residents, in addition to those previously reported:
  - Festivals 2021 Recovery Grant providing grant funding to established festival businesses, freelancers, and councils to develop and deliver plans for the region's festivals. As the region looks to bounce back from the coronavirus pandemic, a strong schedule of festivals from July to December will help support local businesses in some of the hardest hit sectors.
  - Tees Valley Young Creatives Class of 2020 programme supporting recent graduates and school leavers looking to begin careers in the creative sector. The programme of free support is aimed at helping talented professionals newly out of training to secure employment and unlock new opportunities in their field

- The Combined Authority is a DWP approved Gateway organisation for the DWP Kickstart scheme - supporting SMEs to create work placements for 16-24 years olds on Universal Credit. 617 placements have been approved at 196 businesses.
- The Routes to Work pilot is now supporting a wider cohort of residents in response to Covid-19, in addition to work supporting those most distant from the labour market into or closer to sustainable employment. 3420 residents have been engaged, and 670 are in employment.
- The Welcome Back Fund has supported 333 businesses
- The Back to Business Funds have supported 305 businesses
- The Culture Development Fund has supported 22 businesses.

#### **TEESSIDE INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT**

- 4. Teesside International Airport has now started its increased operations following a reduction in services due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Ryanair's schedule of flights to Palma in Majorca, Alicante, Faro and Corfu have begun. Loganair is now running its services to Aberdeen, Belfast, Bristol, London Heathrow and Newquay with Jersey to follow on Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> June. Flights to London Heathrow began departing three times a day from July 12<sup>th</sup>.
- 5. Work is now complete on the terminal redevelopment, which will help to process the increased number of passengers expected to use the airport and giving them a better customer experience. This includes redeveloped check-in and security areas, the new Goosepool bar, refurbished Transporter Bar and Kitchen and Landside café and two renovated passenger lounges the Middleton and Rockliffe lounges. A total of 92% of all upgrade work was carried out by local businesses. World Duty Free will also be joining the airport in the coming weeks.
- 6. The airport's Passenger Facility Fee was abolished on 1<sup>st</sup> June. This move will go a long way to ensuing we deliver a first-class customer service but will also help in getting more airlines to fly from the airport whilst our current partners will now start to look at additional routes.

#### MIDDLESBROUGH STATION REDEVELOPMENT

- 7. Phase 1 of the redevelopment of Middlesbrough Station started on site in December 2020 and completed at the end of May 2021. This is a demonstration of the positive collaborative working between the Combined Authority and Network Rail and has significantly reduced the normal timescales for delivering such projects.
- 8. The work has extended the existing platform 2, to provide capacity for the longer trains operated by LNER, which will be used on the new London to Middlesbrough service commencing later this year. There will be an initial 1 train service in each direction per day with plans for up to 7 services per day in each direction in the future.
- 9. The next phases of work include the redevelopment of the station undercroft, a new platform 3 to provide additional capacity for more rail services, enhancements to

station facilities and public realm improvements around the station. Work is expected to start on these phases later this year, with the project due to be completed by 2023.

#### DARLINGTON STATION REDEVELOPMENT

- 10. A significant milestone has been reached in the development of the Darlington Station Project with the submission of planning applications for the Eastern and Western Gateway developments.
- 11. The Eastern Gateway comprises a new multi-storey car park to replace the current surface car park, a new station building and public realm. This will provide access to the new platforms, which are to be built to the east of the existing station and will provide additional capacity for services in the future. There will also be a connection into the existing train shed via a new fully accessible footbridge.
- 12. The Western Gateway comprises demolition of existing properties, realignment of the current road layout and the creation of new public realm in front of the Portico and Clock Tower to enhance the passenger experience.

#### TEES VALLEY WHEELS TO WORK

- 13. Following a procurement exercise, Redcar and Cleveland Voluntary Development Agency (RCVDA) has been successfully appointed to operate the Tees Valley Wheels 2 Work scheme for a further three-year period.
- 14. The highly successful scheme has been backed further by the Combined Authority which has provided an extra £645,000 in funding, this has allowed them to secure 75 fully electric e-motorbikes. The fleet will enable Wheels 2 Work to help 400 individuals to access employment over the course of the three-year period.

#### **CREATIVE PLACE**

- 18. The Cultural Industries and Visitor Economy Recovery Programme is nearing its final phases of delivery with continued guidance from the independent Task Force. Significant progress has made on two key strands in recent months:
- 19. Festivals 2021 Recovery Fund:
  - Following an open call for applications, the Combined Authority has awarded grant funding to 17 festivals which will take place across Tees Valley from June – December 2021.
  - With a total investment of £350k, the Festivals 2021 Recovery Fund will support the recovery of sector businesses and wider supply chains through activity which reconnects local communities, revitalises shared spaces and attracts visitors to the region.
  - In recognition of the evolving Government guidance with regard to events, festival organisers are being supported to develop Detailed Scenario Plans

which will ensure safe deliverability in some form to align with official recommendations.

## 20. Destination Marketing Recovery Campaign:

- A phased approach to Destination Marketing activity has been developed by the Combined Authority Place Marketing team to enable market engagement which aligns with the easing of restrictions and supports official guidance. A first phase of campaign activity was delivered until early June and aimed to raise awareness of the region and encourage planning of short breaks. A second phase is now underway to convert interest in to visits, encourage engagement with experiences across the region and support the extension of the visitor season by highlighting the opportunities beyond the summer months.
- The Great Place Tees Valley programme concluded in April. Finalisation of evaluation is now under way, the outcomes of which will be published and widely shared to ensure key learnings are embedded in future planning.

## 21. Growth Programme for the Creative & Visitor Economies:

Consultants have been appointed to develop the four 'Foundation
 Frameworks' which will underpin the delivery of the Growth Programme which
 will be rolled out from the autumn. The Consultants have established a
 methodology which places strong emphasis on stakeholder engagement,
 ensuring that the emerging recommendations are representative, inclusive
 and rooted in place.

#### **BUSINESS INVESTMENT**

- 22. The Combined Authority Business Investment team is finalising its work with Department for International Trade (DIT) and local stakeholders on the High Potential Opportunity (HPO) relating to the area's key strengths in Bio Economy manufacturing. In addition to this activity, we are working with Teesside University to explore opportunities to build a collaborative partnership with Shonan Health Innovation (iPark) in Japan.
- 23. The team will also commence a new High Potential Opportunity campaign with DIT focussed on the offshore wind sector. Initial scoping work for this commenced in June. This targeting marketing campaign will be produced in collaboration with the Combined Authority and the two LEPs on the Humber. It will focus on the promotion of the assets on both the rivers Tees and Humber that have been supported by the governments offshore wind port hub development funding.
- 24. There has been significant demand for the Tees Valley Capital grant scheme with over £10m of the funds approved to support over £70m of private sector capital investment. These investment projects will lead to the creation of over 800 new jobs and safeguard a further 310 existing jobs. The current pipeline of applications is over £9m with the next panel to review applications is scheduled for mid-June.

## **TEESWORKS SKILLS ACADEMY**

25. Teesworks Skills Academy has been continuing to develop its skills and recruitment plans for the site, with the short-term plan now with the Combined Authority and work on the medium-term plan under way. The academy has engaged with almost 130 organisations including DWP, Job Centres, charities, housing associations and more, as well as more than 30 companies on the Teesworks site. More than 1,000 individuals are fully registered with their CVs, following around 3,000 enquiries. The team has created a unique process of maximising resources, funding, support, training, specialists, facilities and supply chains across the Tees Valley to support companies at Teesworks. It is also developing many programmes bespoke to industry, meeting their needs with local skilled workforces.

#### **EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT AND SKILLS**

- 26. Employers continue to engage to create placements and we continue to submit applications to the Department of Work and Pensions (DWP) for the Kickstart programme. The Combined Authority are working with 196 businesses and have had 617 placements approved by the DWP. Just under 100 young people have been recruited successfully and are benefiting from these placements. The opportunity remains open and businesses are encouraged to engage either directly with DWP or through the Combined Authority if they can create placements. In order to ensure eligible young people are aware of the placements created they will be advertised on Tees Valley Jobs website.
- 27. As part of the national Plan for Jobs recovery programme, the DWP have recently announced the results of the national procurement exercise to provide support to people who are 12-18 months unemployed. This programme named Restart, will launch at the end of June and will support nearly 18, 000 people to gain work over a three-year period. To ensure local requirements are reflected in the new programme the Combined Authority has worked with DWP to provide information used in the procurement process and assisted in the assessment process. As part of the devolution deal the Routes to Work innovation pilot has trialled new methods of working and delivery to help long-term unemployed people into work, with a key objective to inform future DWP policy in this field. This model of delivery has been used by DWP officials to inform the new Restart project.

### **CLEAN GROWTH AND INNOVATION**

- 28. The Combined Authority is working with partner organisations to support their bids into the Hydrogen Transport Hub competition. It has also worked to support bids into the Clean Maritime Demonstration Competition and the Green Skies Green Fuels 'Jet Zero' competition.
- 29. The North East and Yorkshire Energy Hub, run by the Combined Authority, has successfully developed a £48.13million programme for BEIS's Green Homes Grant LAD2 scheme in partnership with 28 of the 31 Local Authorities in the North East and Yorkshire. The Local Authorities are now returning their signed funding agreements with the work beginning in the summer. The Energy Hub will be administering £876,000 from the Public Sector Decarbonisation Fund to support public bodies across the North East and Yorkshire to plan for decarbonisation, which follows a successful award of £702,000 to four of the Tees Valley's Local Authorities for the

- same fund. The Energy Hub will also work with its Local Authorities to help them bid into the Green Homes Grant LAD3 and Home Upgrade Grant schemes.
- 30. The project start-up phase of the Cluster Plan for Decarbonisation is progressing at pace, with a Project Manager appointed and the first quarterly update held with BEIS.
- 31. The Combined Authority is supporting the Northern Endurance Partnership and Net Zero Teesside in its bid to the CCUS Cluster Sequencing Competition, having submitted its own response to the Cluster Sequencing Competition Consultation and worked with other stakeholders to ensure a strong representation from the Tees Valley.

#### **DIGITAL**

- 32. Teesside University Industrial Digitalisation Technology Centre (ITDC) formally opened on 24<sup>th</sup> June 2021. This facility provides research, innovation, training, and product development support for SMEs across a range of Tees Valley priority sectors. It underpins key aims stated within the Tees Valley Strategic Economic Plan and Tees Valley Innovation Strategy. The Project is funded by Teesside University, ERDF and the Combined Authority.
- 33. 'Talking Tees Tech' launched with Digital City. This is a B2B discussion event series designed to help local businesses share their understanding of technology, digital innovation, and its many fantastic opportunities.

#### COMMUNITY RENEWAL FUND

- 34. Community Renewal Fund (CRF) was announced by government in Budget 2021. The £220m fund is available across the UK to support: Investment in skills; Investment for local business; Investment in communities and place; and Supporting people into employment.
- 35. A maximum of £3m is available and can be bid for per place as part of a nationally competitive process ("Places" are defined at the district, unitary or borough scale in England. Each Local Authority area in Tees Valley is a separate place). CRF is available for 2021/22, with all project activity to be delivered by March 2022. CRF is a pre-cursor to UKSPF, which is due to be launched in 2022.
- 36. The Combined Authority was identified as the Lead Authority for Tees Valley. This role included identifying local priorities and inviting bids through an open and transparent process (the call was open 14<sup>th</sup> April 14<sup>th</sup> May 2021). We have undertaken an assessment of applications based on national criteria and are responsible for submitting a shortlist of applications for CRF projects to Government (deadline: 18<sup>th</sup> June). The Combined Authority will also be accountable body for the funds, including entering into a funding agreement with Government to deliver successful bids and issuing funding agreements to project applicants. Paul Booth, LEP Chair, has overseen the assessment process.

37. The Combined Authority submitted its CRF shortlist to Government on 18<sup>th</sup> June and Government will undertake their assessments across July. Successful applicants will be informed in August.

## FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

38. There are no financial implications to this report.

## **LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

39. There are no legal implications to this report.

## **RISK ASSESSMENT**

40. This report is an update and therefore is categorised as low risk.

Name of Contact Officer: Julie Gilhespie

Post Title: Group Chief Executive Telephone Number: 01642 528834

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**AGENDA ITEM 8** 

## REPORT TO THE OVERVIEW &SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

5<sup>th</sup> AUGUST 2021

## REPORT OF GROUP CHIEF EXECUTIVE

## **DELEGATED DECISIONS MARCH-JULY 2021**

## **SUMMARY**

The table below shows the Delegated Decisions signed off by the Combined Authority between March 2021 and July 2021

#### **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 2021 – July 2021.

Title	Amount	Date signed	Key Decision
Darlington Station Land acquisitions  This decision is to approve a further £673,200 towards the Darlington Station project in advance of the Full Business Case (FBC). An Outline Business Case has already been completed and submitted to the Department for Transport (DfT). The DfT has accepted the project into the Rail Network Enhancements Pipeline (RNEP) and committed development funding to Network Rail to progress the scheme design to FBC.  The funding will be released to Darlington Borough Council (DBC) to enable land acquisition, which is required to deliver the project. DBC is seeking to purchase all land through agreement but has initiated a Compulsory Purchase Order (CPO) process to help ensure all of the required land can be acquired to achieve the delivery programme. There is an immediate opportunity to complete the acquisition of one of the identified sites by agreement with the owner. A collaboration agreement and funding agreement are in place between TVCA and DBC and sites are being acquired jointly between the two authorities.	£673,200	05/03/2021	No
Local Cycling & Walking Infrastructure Programme  Tees Valley Combined Authority's Cabinet approved an allocation of £4,000,000 for the establishment of a Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Programme ("LCWIP").	£4,000,000	31/03/2021	No
The business case for the LCWIP Programme sets out the justification for investing in cycling and walking routes across			

<b>-</b> 1/1		Date	Key
Title	Amount	signed	Decision
the Tees Valley to create a network of infrastructure and proposes a programme to deliver the investment in phases.			
The programme aims to fill gaps in existing provision and create a network of cycling and walking routes to be coherent, direct, safe, comfortable, and attractive so that cycling and walking become the norm as transport options for shorter trips. To do this will require investment in new routes, and improvements to existing routes which separate pedestrians, cyclists and other road users.			
The total cost of the Programme is estimated to be in the region of £150 million and will provide approximately 94 kilometres of new and improved routes which will be accessible by to up to 73% of Tees Valley households. A variety of potential funding streams (including developer contributions) will be secured over the Programme lifetime to meet delivery costs.			
Five routes for early implementation (subject to funds being secured) have been selected via a prioritisation matrix and are:			
<ul> <li>Woodland Road, Darlington</li> <li>Linthorpe Road, Middlesbrough</li> <li>A689, Hartlepool</li> <li>Norton Road, Stockton</li> <li>Nunthorpe to Guisborough</li> </ul>			
The Darlington and Middlesbrough projects are in a state of readiness and are to be brought forward immediately in order to offer evaluation which will better inform and refine the Programme's operation.			
Darlington Station Land acquisitions			
This decision is to approve a further £950,000 towards the Darlington Station project in advance of the Full Business Case (FBC). Approval for the FBC is being sought before the end of May 2021. An Outline Business Case has already been completed and submitted to the Department for Transport (DfT). The DfT has accepted the project into the Rail Network Enhancements Pipeline (RNEP) and committed development funding to Network Rail to progress the scheme design to FBC.			
The funding will be released to Darlington Borough Council (DBC) to enable land acquisition, which is required to deliver the project. DBC is seeking to purchase all land through agreement but has initiated a Compulsory Purchase Order (CPO) process to help ensure all of the required land can be acquired to achieve the delivery programme. There is an immediate opportunity to complete the acquisition of two of the identified sites by agreement with the owners and to resolve an intermediate interest in a further site to be acquired. A collaboration agreement and funding agreement are in place between TVCA and DBC and sites are being acquired jointly between the two authorities.	£950,000	06/04/2021	No
A66 Maintenance Project	£100,000	27/04/2021	No
TVCA is currently considering options for the transport bid into the Levelling Up Fund. One of the projects currently being considered for inclusion in a potential Teesworks/Freeport connectivity package bid, alongside the Northallerton-Eaglescliffe W12 Gauge Clearance project, is the A66 maintenance project. Whilst Middlesbrough Council has undertaken a significant amount of work on project development, there is a need to produce a Department for			

		Dete	l/au
Title	Amount	Date signed	Key Decision
Transport (DfT) compliant Full Business Case (FBC). This is a requirement of the Levelling Up Fund. Should TVCA decide not to submit this project into the Levelling Up Fund, the development of an FBC is still considered worthwhile as it can be used to bid into alternative funding streams. The work is time critical as the Levelling Up Fund round 1 deadline is the 18 June 2021.		-	
Zebra Scheme			
On the 30 <sup>th of</sup> March 2021 the Government published the Zero Emission Bus Regional Areas (ZEBRA) scheme call for expressions of interest. The scheme enables local transport authorities, working in close partnership with bus operators or as consortia with more stakeholders, to bid for funding to purchase zero emission buses (i.e., battery electric or hydrogen fuel cell) and the infrastructure needed to support them. TVCA is considering whether to submit a bid for hydrogen buses and needs to procure consultant support to ascertain whether a viable financial model can be developed working alongside one or more bus operators.	£100,000	27/04/2021	No
It is felt that even if TVCA does not ultimately bid into this scheme, or is not successful, the financial model/business case could be used to inform the spending review ask that the DfT is proposing to submit in autumn 2021 for the Tees Valley hydrogen transport hub.			
Darlington Station land acquisition 3			
This decision is to approve a further £81,500 towards the Darlington Station project in advance of the business case approval. The funding will be released to Darlington Borough Council (DBC) to enable a further property acquisition, which is required to deliver the project. Approval of the business case is being sought before the end of May 2021, however, there is an on-going need to acquire properties as and when agreements are reached. The number of properties where agreement can be reached and the timescales for doing so are difficult to predict as this is dependent upon the property owners.	£81,500	24/05/2021	No
IDT Virtual Centre at Teesside Uni	£451,875	02/06/2021	No
Cabinet approved the 10-year Investment Plan 2019-2029 on 24th January 2019. Subsequently, in January 2020, Cabinet resolved (minute number TVCA 60/19) to approve an allocation for an Innovation Programme within the Investment Plan.  Within the Innovation Programme an allocation of £2 million was set approved for projects which worked with regional partners to address the needs of the digital sector.			
This decision will confirm the allocation of £451,875 towards the "Industrial Digitalisation Technology (Virtual) Centre at Teesside University" project, hereafter referred to as IDTC and allow the project to progress.			
The IDTC project will share knowledge from the university SMEs in order to develop ideas into new products and improve processes to be more efficient. The scheme will allow			
access to businesses in Tees Valley in the Advanced Manufacturing, Healthcare, Digital and Creative sectors to digital hardware, such as Virtual Reality equipment, and software, like smart connectivity of digital equipment. Businesses will be able to analyse current products			

Title	Amount	Date signed	Key Decision
and processes, find and test ideas, innovate existing or invent new products and processes. IDTC is aimed at SMEs who employ less than 250 employees and with turnover less than 50 million euros.			
Wheels to work extension  On 31st January 2020 (under decision TVCA 59/19) Cabinet approved an initial allocation of funds of £260,000 to the "Wheels To Work" project. This was supplemented by a further allocation of £645,000 made by Cabinet on 27th November 2020 (under decision TVCA 37/20). The total, indicative allocation for the project within the Investment Plan is therefore £905,000  The initial Wheels To Work project was supported by £65,000 of funds advanced by TVCA in 2019/20. This decision will confirm the allocation of £905,000 from the Integrated Transport Programme to an extended version of the "Wheels To Work" project (inclusive of the £65,000 previously advanced) and allow the project to progress.  The project involves the acquisition of a fleet of 75 electric motorcycles which are to be hired to Tees Valley residents who are unable to readily access public or other means of transport in order to access employment, training, or education. The scheme is to be run, under contract to the Combined Authority by Redcar and Cleveland Voluntary Development Agency ("RCVDA").	£905,000	03/06/2021	No

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 2021/2022

## **Standing Items**

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

Overview & Scrutiny Committee			
Date	Venue	Item / Responsible Officer	
14 <sup>th</sup> October 2021	Cavendish House	Investment Plan delivery update	
13 <sup>th</sup> January 2022	Cavendish House	Finance & Resources Sub Committee Budget Consultation Report	
17 <sup>th</sup> March 2022	Cavendish House		

Finance & Resources Sub-Committee				
Date	Venue	Item / Responsible Officer		
December 2021 - TBC	Cavendish House	Draft Budget 1st Consultation meeting		
December 2021 - TBC	Cavendish House	Draft Budget 2 <sup>nd</sup> Consultation meeting (if required)		

## Proposed Items to be scheduled

- STDC Monitoring Report Quarterly
- Investment Plan delivery update Quarterly
- Portfolio Lead updates
- Updates from Finance and Resources Sub Committee (where applicable)

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