

AGENDA ITEM 5**REPORT TO THE TEES VALLEY
COMBINED AUTHORITY CABINET****28th JANUARY 2022****REPORT OF THE MONITORING OFFICER****GOVERNANCE AND APPOINTMENTS****SUMMARY**

This report summarises changes to membership of Tees Valley Combined Authority committees which have taken place since the previous Cabinet meeting. It also asks Cabinet to approve that TVCA adopt the non-legally binding working definition of antisemitism of the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA).

RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Combined Authority Cabinet:-

- agrees the appointments as set out in this report;
- approve that TVCA adopt the non-legally binding working definition of antisemitism of the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA).

DETAIL**Overview & Scrutiny Committee**

1. Cabinet are asked to note the appointment of Councillor Robert Clarke from Redcar & Cleveland Borough Council as a substitute member on to the Overview & Scrutiny Committee.

Local Enterprise Partnership Membership

2. At its meeting on 17th December, Cabinet approved an amendment to the TVCA Constitution to allow for the appointment of up to two Deputy Chairs of the Local Enterprise Partnership. At its meeting on 17th January, 2022. The LEP Board agreed that the Deputy Chairs of the Local Enterprise Partnership will be Annabel Turpin and Brenda McLeish.

International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA)

3. The Tees Valley Mayor has agreed to adopt the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA) non-legally binding working definition of antisemitism, which the IHRA itself adopted in May 2016. It is as set out below.

“Antisemitism is a certain perception of Jews, which may be expressed as hatred toward Jews. Rhetorical and physical manifestations of antisemitism are directed toward Jewish or non-Jewish individuals and/or their property, toward Jewish community institutions and religious facilities.”

4. If adopted, necessary amendments will be made to internal policies and procedures. In particular, the commitment to the definition of Antisemitism will be built into the wholesale review and update of the TVCA Equality Framework – which will also be explicitly extended to cover the whole TVCA group.
5. Cabinet is asked to approve the adoption of this definition.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

6. 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

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

RISK ASSESSMENT

8. 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

9. 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

10. The TVCA Equality Framework set out how TVCA ensures compliance with its duties under The Equality Act 2010 and The Equality Act 2010 (Specific Duties) Regulations 2011 and our commitment to ensure that all our policies and practices seek to eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation, advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations between different parts of the community. The adoption of the definition is not in consistent with our commitment to the championing freedom for any person to manifest their religion or belief, subject to the law and the protection of people against discrimination on the grounds of the Equality Act protected characteristics.

LOCAL ENTERPRISE PARTNERSHIP

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

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