

# Tees Valley Combined Authority Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Agenda

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**Date:** Thursday, 13th August, 2020 at 10:30 am

**Venue:** Microsoft Teams Meeting

## 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 Declarations of interest

Tees Valley Combined Authority Declaration of Interest Procedure  
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#### 2 Apologies for absence

#### 3 Minutes

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday, 18th June, 2020

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#### 4 Election of Chair & Vice Chair

#### 5 Chief Executive's Update

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# Tees Valley Combined Authority Overview and Scrutiny Committee

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EES Portfolio Update: Cllr Bob Cook attached [Page 11]
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Local Enterprise Partnership Portfolio Update: Paul Booth OBE attached [Page 31]
- 8 Teesside International Airport Update**  
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Forward Plan attached [Page 41]

## 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

Microsoft Teams Live Event  
Thursday, 18th June, 2020 at 2.00 pm.

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**Present:**

Cllr Stephenson (Chair) (Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council)  
Cllr Rooney (Vice Chair) (Middlesbrough Council)  
Cllr Barlow (Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council)  
Cllr Brown (Hartlepool 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 Renton (Darlington Borough Council)  
Cllr Riordan (Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council)

**Officers:**

Julie Gilhespie - CEO - TVCA/STDC  
Sharon Jones - Governance & Scrutiny Officer - TVCA  
Nicola Dean - Governance Support Officer - TVCA

**Also in attendance:**

**Apologies for absence:**

Cllr Loynes (Hartlepool Borough Council)

**OSC  
22/19**      **Declarations of interest**

There were no interests declared.

**OSC  
23/19**      **Minutes**

The minutes from the meeting held on 17th October were agreed as a true record

The last meeting on 16th January was inquorate so there are no minutes of that meeting.

The Chair reminded Members that if they wish to raise any questions outside of the scheduled meetings that these should be raised via the Chair, copying in Sharon Jones, rather than being asked direct to officers.

**OSC  
24/19**      **Chief Executives Update**

A report was circulated from the Chief Executive giving an update on the work of the Combined Authority since the last meeting.

The Committee were advised that the main focus of the CA over the last few months has been the impact of Covid 19. We have largely focused on recovery planning and looking at the short, medium and long term impact on the economy. A comprehensive piece of work has been carried out and a report on this will be ready soon. This can be shared with the Committee once available.

The Business support helpline that was established at the beginning of the outbreak has seen lots of calls received in the early days of the pandemic but this has reduced significantly over the last few weeks.

Teesside Airport has been closed but is due to reopen next week. New flights will begin in July and the main traffic, which is the KLM flight to Schipol, is due to restart on 3rd August.

TVCA is responding to the Governments Freeport consultation. Once this moves to the next stage there is an opportunity for Tees Valley to bid to be one of first Freeports.

There was a pot of money announced in the budget for Combined Authorities to bid for and TVCA's response to that went to cabinet in the form of the Transport Investment Prospectus. This will allow for long term planning from 2024 onwards.

Questions were asked around the following areas:

Purchase of hand sanitizer by TVCA - what was the cost of this and what was the process for procurement. It was reported via A&G committee in January that there is no procurement strategy in place for TVCA. Has this now been rectified? The Committee were advised that the total cost for the sanitizer could not be quoted at this point but can be provided. The procurement was carried out via emergency procurement rules at a time when no sanitizer was available anywhere and TVCA were able to source a provider. A Procurement Strategy has now been drafted and is awaiting sign off. It should be noted that all procurement has been done in accordance with the procurement rules, but this is now set out in a strategy document.

Evidence regarding the success of TVCA in responding to the Covid outbreak. 1000 businesses were surveyed and the results from these can be shared. There are plans in place to carry out a follow up survey, this will be a piece of evidenced work that we can suggest interventions on the back of. We know that recovery won't be quick but we will look to work flexibly to help where we can.

Given the dramatic change in how people travel due to Covid, the committee asked if there been provision made for this in the Transport Prospectus, given that it wasn't on the horizon when it was produced. It was advised that amendments were made in the prospectus to increase money for electric vehicles and for cycling and walking suggestions. The Prospectus and funding allows us to flex plans to ensure they meet the needs of the public.

Resolved that the details of the report are noted

**OSC  
25/19**      **STDC Update**

A report was circulated informing the Committee of key activity within South Tees Development Corporation.

It was questioned why no jobs have yet been created to replace those lost with the closure of SSI. It was explained that the nature of site means that opportunities are long term. There was never an expectation for job creation in the first few years, as STDC is still going through the site assembly phase. We will see construction jobs starting in the next few months and this will continue to upscale as time goes on.

A discussion took place regarding the significant changes to STDC Board and Management structure, specifically, the decision not to replace the CEO and also the reduced Board membership. Cllr Jeffrey commented that she is disappointed with the changes to the Board, in particular that there are no women on the Board, other than the RCBC Leader. She also questioned how the current MP for Redcar was given a place on the board when the previous MP for the same area had requested a seat and was denied.

It was explained that there is a process set out in the Constitution for how the Board is established and that this process was followed. It is ultimately a Cabinet decision and it was agreed at their last meeting. The management changes are to realign STDC so that it is working more closely with TVCA and operates as a group. The CEO is now across the Group and the Financial Director and Commercial Director will also work across the group. The structure therefore is quite different and this is to meet the needs moving forward and towards transition in the Autumn.

It was questioned if there is a way for the Committee to see what success looks like over the forthcoming months and years to allow them to measure progress. It was agreed to look at a way to allow the Committee to understand the long term project and that this is something that can be measured against moving forward.

Resolved that the details of the report are noted

**OSC  
26/19**      **Overview & Scrutiny Committee Annual report**

The Committee received the draft annual report to be presented to Cabinet in July.

The Chair brought the Committees attention to Section 13 of the report, which refers to substitute members. She asked Members to each find a substitute to attend meetings on their behalf should they be unable to. The substitute must be from the same political group.

Resolved that the committee agreed the report for submission to Cabinet.

**OSC  
27/19**      **Delegated Decisions March-June 2020**

The Committee received a report detailing the Delegated decisions taken by

the Combined Authority since the last meeting.

Questions were raised regarding the DD for bus travel. JG advised the Committee that she would need to gather further detail on the specifics of this decision and would provide a response in writing to members. This would include information as to whether the bus companies have also accessed Government grants.

The Darlington link road funding was questioned, specifically whether any progress has been made with regard to timescales for this being built. It was advised that a submission has been made to DfT any they will decide if this will progress. Once we know if the project is to proceed then we will lobby for a timescale for this.

Cllr Chris Jones raised a specific query with regard to rail projects consultancy. Campaigning has been ongoing for a feasibility report to be carried out for Redcar East and an additional holt to be built. It was advised that this is on the list of schemes to consider and it will continue to be looked into further.

Resolved that the report is noted

**OSC  
28/19**      **Meetings & Forward Plan**

A further Committee meeting is to be added in September to look at the Business Case submitted to BEIS. The date of this is TBC

August's meeting will contain an update from the LEP Chair and the EES Portfolio holder as these were missed out due to the cancellation of meetings previously. There will also be an airport update.

Members questioned what the process for call in would look like within the current lockdown situation. It will be clarified to Members how this would be carried out should it be required.

**OSC  
29/19**      **Date & Time of Next Meeting**

The next meeting is scheduled for 13th August 2020



**AGENDA ITEM 5****REPORT TO THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE****13th AUGUST 2020****REPORT OF GROUP CHIEF EXECUTIVE****UPDATE FROM GROUP 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****CAREERS EDUCATION**

1. The Combined Authority has continued to support schools and colleges to continue offering careers education remotely during the COVID-19 outbreak and has relaunched the Career.com website to provide accessible careers information.
2. We were recently successful in gaining a third wave careers pilot from the Careers Enterprise Company, securing an additional £288,000. This formally recognises all Tees Valley age 11-18 education establishments as part of the national Hub approach.
3. In addition, strand 4 of the Opportunity NE has now been implemented. This is a DfE initiative supporting 12 Tees Valley schools, to offer 360 pupils intensive careers support over two years.

**APPRENTICESHIPS**

4. Our new Employer Grant for Apprentices, supporting new apprentices aged 16-20 in priority sectors was launched on 18<sup>th</sup> June.

**EMERGENCY ACTIVE TRAVEL FUND**

5. During the Covid-19 pandemic and lockdown there have been unprecedented levels of walking and cycling across the UK. In response, and to support the recovery phase, the Department for Transport (DfT) announced a £250m Emergency Active Travel Fund, to support increased levels of walking and cycling. The indicative Tees Valley allocation, subject to the submission of satisfactory plans is £2,153,000.
6. This money is being split into two tranches with an indicative allocation for the Combined Authority of £431,000 in the first tranche. The purpose of this money is to move swiftly and meaningfully to reallocate road space to cyclists and pedestrians. The five local highway authorities have developed a wide range of proposals

appropriate to their settlements which formed the basis of the submission to DfT. This includes the provision of temporary segregated cycleways, new temporary footpaths and the widening of existing footways and temporary pedestrian crossings.

7. A grant confirmation has now been received for this funding and in view of the programme proposed, the Combined Authority has benefitted from an increased allocation and is receiving £481,519. The additional funding will enable the local highway authorities to deliver additional activity in line with their original proposals.
8. The Combined Authority indicative allocation for the second tranche is £1.7m. The additional money provides an opportunity to look at more transformational interventions to capitalise on the short term changes in travel behaviour. There is the potential to link this delivery with our Local Cycling and Walking Improvement Plan (LCWIP) programme, which has an initial £4m allocation from the Integrated Transport Plan. This additional funding is an opportunity to bring forward elements of the proposed LCWIP schemes across the whole of Tees Valley to support access to our urban centres and support a green post COVID-19 recovery.

## **E-SCOOTERS**

9. As part of the green restart of local transport in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the DfT consulted on urgent legislation to allow trials of rental e-scooters to commence to help mitigate reduced public transport capacity.
10. E-scooters have been identified as a fast and clean way to travel that could ease the burden on the public transport network and allow for social distancing. In a very short space of time, a suitable delivery partner has been identified, a commercially viable proposition developed, with no financial contribution from the Combined Authority, and a submission made to the DfT and approved for a Tees Valley wide pilot.
11. Middlesbrough became the first place in the UK to launch a trial of e-scooters on 13<sup>th</sup> July. Launches in Hartlepool and Redcar & Cleveland will follow very shortly with Darlington and Stockton expected to follow in the coming weeks as the changes to Traffic Regulation Orders come into force.

## **CULTURE & TOURISM**

12. Tees Valley will welcome the Cook Islands men's international rugby league team for next year's World Cup finals. The team will be based at Rockcliffe Hall hotel and train at Darlington's Mowden Park arena. The event could give Tees Valley an economic boost of up to £8m, attracting tens of thousands of international rugby fans to the area. Middlesbrough's Riverside Stadium will also host a game during the major international competition.
13. The Combined Authority has launched a £1m recovery programme to support businesses in the hospitality & visitor economy and cultural industries.
14. The programme includes the Welcome Back grant fund which will support public facing businesses in these sectors to re-open in-line with Government guidance

regarding the easing of lockdown restrictions. Grants of £500 - £1,500 are available to support eligible businesses with the costs of re-opening.

15. The Welcome Back strand of activity also includes online support for businesses through webinars, expert guidance, provision of toolkits etc. and the launch of a public-facing Welcome Back campaign to grow public confidence in Tees Valley as a visitor destination.
16. The wider programme will focus on supporting business development and innovation; growing Tees Valley's proposition and profile as a walking & cycling destination; supporting emerging graduates and school leavers hoping to pursue careers in the creative and visitor sectors, and scoping Tees Valley's festival proposition in 2021.

## **COMMUNICATIONS AND MARKETING**

1. An inspirational "comeback" video has been produced to showcase the area and its resilience in coming back stronger than ever following the coronavirus pandemic. It contained motivational messages that aimed to inspire and reassure local people that the region can bounce back economically and socially, as we have in the past. To date, the film has had more than 250,000 views and 4,000 engagements on social media and is the Combined Authority's best performing post to date.

## **JULY CABINET**

1. A Cabinet meeting took place on 24<sup>th</sup> July. The following items were on the agenda:

### **AGM**

- Governance & Appointments – Appointments to Committees and groups of the Combined Authority, agreement of Members Allowances for 2020-21 and changes to Governance procedures as recommended by internal auditors.
- Constitution Amendments – Amendments required to the TVCA Constitution for agreement.

### **Business Meeting**

- 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.
- Investment Plan Q4 delivery update – The report provides an overview of the financial performance of the ten year Investment Plan, an update on delivery by Investment Plan theme and highlights any perceived risk to achieving the spend forecasts within the Investment Plan.
- Overview & Scrutiny Committee Annual Report - summarising the work of the Committee for the period of May 2019 to April 2020.
- Inward Investment Opportunity - The Combined Authority has been approached regarding a significant inward investment opportunity in Tees Valley. A condition of the investor is that at this stage all details relating to the investment opportunity

and proposed site must be kept confidential. In order to secure the inward investment in the near future, the Combined Authority has been advised that there is a need for a third party commitment to deliver a highway interchange improvement.

- Adult Education Budget - This paper provides detail regarding the approach to be agreed by cabinet to make funding allocations for the devolved Adult Education Budget for academic year 2020/21.
- Culture Paper – This is a confidential item by virtue of paragraphs 1 and 2 of schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972

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**AGENDA ITEM 6****REPORT TO THE OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE****August 13<sup>th</sup> 2020****REPORT OF PORTFOLIO HOLDER FOR EDUCATION EMPLOYMENT AND  
SKILLS****OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE PORTFOLIO UPDATE: CLLR BOB COOK****SUMMARY**

This report provides an update on the progress made in delivering the Education Employment and Skills Strategy; ‘Inspiring Our Future’ (2018-21) plan to build the skills we need for a modern economy. The report also provides a brief summary of the impact of Covid-19 on this portfolio and the plans to develop a new strategy for 2021-23.

The strategy set out the opportunities to build upon current joint working and existing initiatives. It highlighted the current and future challenges of high unemployment, particularly in our young people and the low skills base of our residents; alongside the challenge to businesses to better engage to provide the opportunities of experiences of work, training, apprenticeships and jobs.

The strategy set six key priorities:

- Supporting Education, Innovation and Collaboration
- Developing a skills system for business growth
- Addressing long-term unemployment
- Creating a Tees Valley Careers and Enterprise initiative
- Creating a Business challenge and workforce planning approach
- Enhancing the Higher Education role in driving economic growth

The strategy also set out a detailed governance structure to fully engage the many key stakeholders and partners that are key to delivering the change required.

**DETAIL****Supporting Education, Innovation and Collaboration**

1. This strand of work includes providing investment of £2m to improve the outcomes of our young people when they leave statutory education. The Tees Valley Education Improvement Board, chaired by Sally Robinson, Children's and Joint Commissioning Services, Hartlepool Council has been established to lead this work and a proposal focused upon four key elements has been developed by the Board. The proposal is centred on:

- Retention and recruitment of teachers
- Leadership and governance in schools
- Science, technology, engineering, English and maths curriculum support

- Inclusion, particularly for those pupils that struggle with the mainstream curriculum
2. Representatives from the local education partnerships have worked with their schools and local authority to develop proposals. Six proposals, totalling £592,476 have been recommended for funding.
  3. The Board will provide advice on a quarterly basis to the Combined Authority in relation to the performance and financial monitoring of the projects in receipt of funding.

## **Developing a skills system for business growth**

### **Adult Education Budget**

4. The Adult Education Budget was successfully devolved to the Combined Authority in August 2019. Tees Valley is one of the first 7 areas in England to undertake this devolution. The budget will be confirmed on an annual basis subject to the Autumn Statement, the 2019/20 budget was confirmed as £29,446,518. The subsequent years allocations are made annually, the 2020/21 allocation has been confirmed as £30,612,605.
5. Devolution of this budget provides greater local control of what training and skills provision, including community learning is provided to Tees Valley residents. Extensive working has taken place with the Department for Education and the Education Skills Funding Agency to fully understand the complexity of the current system and the impact on learners and providers of any suggested changes.
6. Cabinet agreed the strategy and operational approach to be taken to commission activity from August 2019. The 2019/20 AEB Commissioning Process resulted in 33 providers securing a funding award with Tees Valley Combined Authority and £25.8m was awarded to these providers. A breakdown of the provider allocations is published on the Combined Authority's website.
7. Following an overall "inadequate" grading by Ofsted, one provider (Total Training Group) novated their funding for 2019/20 to another provider (Learning Curve Group), therefore there are now 32 providers delivering this activity to Tees Valley residents. As part of the commissioning process, all providers who were seeking to secure a funding award were required to submit a detailed Delivery Plan that is used as the basis for performance management for all providers that received funding in 2019/20.
8. The Adult Education Budget combines the funding for Community Learning and Adult Skills training and is available to fund learning and skills provision for those aged 19 and over.
9. A condition of the devolution arrangement is that the Tees Valley Combined Authority must continue to fund the legal entitlements for the Tees Valley residents which are:
  - Adult Basic Skills - English and Maths for those who have not previously achieved a GCSE Grade A\*-C or grade 4 or higher
  - First full level 2 qualifications (19-23 year olds)

- First full level 3 qualifications (19-23 year olds)
- From 2020 there will also be a legal entitlement for learners to access fully funded Digital training.

**10.** The provider Delivery Plans were aggregated to give an overview of what was planned to be delivered in the Tees Valley in 2019/20. The planned provision was in line with expectations, in that providers had planned to deliver similar levels and patterns of delivery as they delivered in 2018/19:

- 48% of low level skills provision (employability, non-regulated learning and pre-level 2 work preparation);
- 18% of the planned provision is at level 2 (full and part)
- 13% of distance learning provision
- 1% level 3 (first full level 3 for 19-23 year olds)

**11.** It is the intention that the devolved AEB will help to drive the development of a skills system for business growth in the Tees Valley. However, it is clear from the 2019/20 planned provision that there is a need and opportunity to shift the high levels of employability and work preparation activity into more employer related skills provision. The Combined Authority is working with these providers to change their offer of training to better respond to current employer skills needs.

#### **AEB Performance update**

**12.** In line with the Performance Management Framework, the Tees Valley Combined Authority has taken the approach to monitor and manage the performance against agreed Delivery Plan. There are four performance management review points and tolerance levels that have been set throughout the year; December, April, July and October.

**13.** The first performance review has taken place and has primarily used the provider's data return to determine where they are against the agreed tolerance level of minus 20%. In addition to the submitted data, other supporting information has been taken into consideration which included:

- Provider forecasted performance data
- Quality (Ofsted Inspection)
- Audit, Assurance and Financial Health (ESFA)

**14.** This Performance Review resulted in:

- 14 providers were required to develop and agree a Delivery Assurance Plan with their Relationship and Performance Officer.
- 8 of the above providers had their payments ceased from January 2020, until such time that their performance showed improvement.
- Following the receipt of further data, 3 of these providers had their payments reinstated.
- As a result of Covid-19 all providers had payments reinstated from April 2020.

15. Throughout 2019/20, the Combined Authority is continuing to work closely with the ESFA and to share provider performance information including any national intervention activity as a result of any concerns arising from, performance, quality, Ofsted inspection, financial health and audit and assurance monitoring visits.

#### **AEB-Additional in-year funding awards**

16. As a result of the commissioning process £3.3m was retained for further allocation in academic year 2019/20. The on-going performance management process and dialogue with providers has begun to identify where there will be a need for the Combined Authority to consider awarding additional funding to support increased delivery to a small number of providers.

17. In February providers were given the opportunity to submit proposals for new pilots by the 6 March 2020, and subject to appraisal and available funding, priority was to be given to those providers that were;

- performing well against their 2019/20 Delivery Plan;
- continuing to offer high quality provision; and
- strategically and economically significant to the Tees Valley

18. Unfortunately as Covid-19 occurred these additional awards were put on hold and the funding retained for future allocation.

19. As lockdown was implemented all face-to-face training ceased and where possible training providers moved to online training. All but one training provider, HGV driving, did achieve this to some extent. Clearly demand has reduced and so performance of providers has been heavily impacted.

20. In order to support the provider infrastructure and ensure that training could continue to be offered, it was agreed to continue to pay all providers in line with their agreed payment profile. This included Colleges, Local Authorities and Independent Training Providers. This decision was made very quickly once the impact of lockdown was known. Providers were extremely grateful for this swift action and support. TVCA was the first region to make this decision. All Mayoral Combined Authorities did follow suit as did the ESFA for all Grant Funded providers, i.e. Colleges and Local Authorities.

21. During this time, three providers; Learning Curve, DTNA and Group Horizon increased their demand for learning and as a result a further funding allocation was made to these providers to the value of £509,467.

#### **AEB-Academic Year 2020/21**

22. The Combined Authority has set out in its 2019/20 Funding Agreements, that it reserves the right to continue to fund providers into the 2020/21 academic year, subject to performance and quality.

23. The July 2020 Cabinet agreed the funding allocations for Academic Year 2020/21. All existing providers have been allocated an initial funding award at the same rate as that of 2019/20. This will maintain delivery at no less than 2019/20 levels. In addition



providers were invited to request an uplift in their award to support anticipated increased demand. The requests received exceeded the £3m above the available funding.

**24.** A process for allocation of the uplift was then implemented that included:

- Awarding uplift funding to providers within 10% of their target in March (pre-Covid);
- No provider given more than 20% of their allocation as growth; and
- No provider given more than 20% of the total growth allocation.

**25.** Applying this formula an additional £2,641,181 was awarded in line with the retained funding from the 2019/20 allocation. This resulted in Cabinet agreeing to allocate a total of £28,266,628. Further allocations will be made for continuing learners that straddle academic years. This results in approximately £4.4m remaining of the 2020/21 devolved budget.

**26.** In addition to the devolved budget and as a result of Covid-19 the Department for Education has now indicated an additional allocation of £1.2m to TVCA.

**27.** The remaining budget will be retained until it is clear what the ongoing impact on learner and employer demand is in the new academic year. The intention is to allocate it to providers that indicate increased demand.

## **Business Challenge and Workforce Planning**

### **National Retraining Scheme (NRS)**

**28.** A meeting took place in February with members of the Department for Education to discuss and explore the wider roll out of the 'Get Help to Retrain' element of the NRS in Tees Valley from Spring 2020. Discussions are ongoing to consider trialling the roll-out of the national "Get Help to Retrain" element of the Scheme.

**29.** Further development of this work has been delayed due to Covid19.

### **Skills Advisory Panels (SAPs)**

**30.** Following the SAP Autumn Review (November 2019), the Progress Review feedback for Tees Valley was that we have met all the standards set out in the SAPs guidance published in December 2018.

**31.** On 7 February, DfE announced that each Skills Advisory Panel (SAP) will receive grant funding for the next financial year (2020-21). DfE will support local areas to continue to develop their SAP's analytical capability sustainably. They also want SAPs to continue to gain influence so that they fully play their important leadership role so changes in local skills provision better meet the needs of employers and will do this through a further round of grant funding. DfE expect local areas to use the funding to achieve these two broad objectives:

- publish a Local Skills Report by March 2021; and
- further develop analytical capability in a sustainable way, which includes developing local action plans.

32. The Tees Valley Education, Employment and Skills Board has committed to oversee this work and take on the role and functions of the SAP. The Combined Authority team were selected to showcase the approach taken in Tees Valley to develop an evidence-based Education, Employment and Skills strategy. They have taken part in several national tele kits and presentations to demonstrate the approach taken, feedback has been very positive.

### **Skills Demand Analysis**

33. In order to try to understand the 'skills demand' issues in Tees Valley, two initial pieces of work have been undertaken:

- (i) a piece of desk-based research undertaken by the TVCA Strategy, Policy & Intelligence Team to review national and regional skills strategies, reports and papers, along with relevant reports produced/published by sectoral organisations and bodies; and
- (ii) an externally commissioned piece of work by "Emsi" to undertake analysis of the skills demands of ten priority industry sectors within Tees Valley, with each report containing a detailed economic overview by sector, including demographics, job trends, salaries and key occupations, as well as a recruitment outlook and overview of the talent pool.

A third piece of analysis work, a NEET Research Brief, which aims to provide an evidence base to inform the future development of a Tees Valley response to addressing young people who are at risk of or NEET within the regional economy, has just been commissioned and work on this will begin in August.

This work will form part of the evidence base that will feed into the SAP Local Skills Report which will highlight how our response has supported local providers and employers to respond to our local skills priorities, and set out the future challenges and opportunities for Tees Valley.

### **Skills and Productivity Board (SPB)**

34. The Skills and Productivity Board (SPB) was announced by Secretary of State on 30 September 2019. The SPB will be comprised mainly of labour market economists, and its remit will be to produce evidence and analysis of which skills add most value, both now and looking to the future.

### **Apprenticeships**

35. Tees Valley has a strong track record of creating and delivering quality apprenticeships. In recent years there has been a significant reduction in the numbers of apprenticeships being created. This reduction has been at a national and local level, including Tees Valley.
36. The most recent published full year data states that 6,280 people living in Tees Valley started an apprenticeship in 2018/19. Apprenticeship starts are 37% lower than three years previously, compared to 23% lower nationally. Over the last year the number of

apprenticeships started by 16-18 year olds has fallen by 12% compared to 8% nationally, whilst the number of apprenticeships started by those aged 19+ has risen by 10% both locally and nationally.

- 37.** To address these challenges, the Combined Authority is supporting employers in the Tees Valley to create new Apprenticeship opportunities.
- 38.** An apprenticeship is a paid job which includes a significant training component to allow an individual to develop the knowledge, skills and behaviours needed to be competent in their chosen occupation. Individuals are assessed at the end of the programme to test and certify their skills.
- 39.** Part of the devolution deal in 2016 was the inclusion of funding for 12 months to provide an Apprenticeship Grant for Employers, this was successful in supporting the creation of over 1000 apprenticeships and Cabinet has agreed annually to continue to provide grants for employers that create apprenticeships.
- 40.** The eligibility and criteria for this grant has been reviewed annually, to ensure that the grant offer continues to respond to employers demands and to support growth in the strategic priority sectors.
- 41.** One of the issues raised as part of this review in December 2019 was that the number of applications being received by the Combined Authority had drastically reduced from previous years. On investigation a conclusion was reached that the grant was too restrictive and was not enough of an incentive to support businesses to create new apprenticeships.
- 42.** Additional feedback from employers also concluded that they were reluctant to commit to the minimum 12 month offer of employment at a time when they felt that the economy was uncertain and they were concerned about being able to provide the high level of supervision and mentoring that new apprentices required, this alongside the requirement to be more creative to provide 20% off the job leaning was constraining their ability to commit.
- 43.** As a consequence of these concerns larger employers have utilised their Apprenticeship levy to support upskilling of their current workforce.
- 44.** Therefore, the review of the Apprenticeship Support for Employers grant concluded that a more simplified grant offer that widened the business sectors eligible and addressed the largest reduction of apprenticeships for 16-18 year olds should be now launched. Approval was agreed to launch this new grant during National Apprenticeship Week in February 2020.
- 45.** The current grant offer is:  
  
For small to medium businesses (249 or fewer employees) in high demand and priority sectors that employ an apprentice aged 16+:
  - Apprentice aged 16 to 18 years of age           £3,000
  - Apprentice aged 19+ years of age               £2,000

For small employers (49 or fewer employees) from any sector that employ an apprentice aged 19+ years of age a grant of £500 would remain available.

46. Concerns have been raised by businesses and training providers that due to Covid19 apprenticeship creation has all but stopped. The Combined Authority has responded by implementing a New Grant for Employers to stimulate the number of apprenticeships being created. The new Grant was launched in June with £950k allocated for this purpose and is anticipated to support up to 100 new apprenticeships.
47. This grant supports priority and high demand sectors to create new apprenticeship jobs for young people aged 16-20 by providing a wage subsidy of 100% for the first 6 months and 50% for the remainder of the apprenticeship. As of 31<sup>st</sup> July, 59 applications had been approved.

### **National Apprenticeship Week 2020**

48. The 13th annual National Apprenticeship Week took place from 3<sup>rd</sup> to 9th February 2020.
49. National Apprenticeship Week is an annual week-long celebration of apprenticeships across England and is a time to recognise and applaud apprenticeship success stories.
50. Tees Valley Combined Authority organised and hosted a number of Tees Valley based events throughout the week. One event confirmed is a “Power your nation” event with EDF Energy for year 10 and 11 students to promote apprenticeships within Science, Technology, Engineering and Manufacturing (STEM) and the nuclear sector. Students visited the Hartlepool power station plant for a site tour and engaged with apprentices that are working at the plant.
51. A range of apprenticeship resources forming a toolkit of Information and Advice will feature on the redesigned [teesvalleycareers.com](http://teesvalleycareers.com) website.

### **Amazon**

52. On the 19<sup>th</sup> December 2019 online retailer Amazon officially announced plans to open a new fulfilment centre in Darlington and begin recruitment for more than 1000 permanent staff at its warehouse complex.
53. Located at Symmetry Park adjacent to the A66, the announcement confirmed that Darlington will be Amazons first fulfilment centre in the North East, with plans to also open a distribution centre near Bowburn in the summer of 2020. The site will be equipped with advanced Amazon Robotics technology, which will be used daily to fulfil customer orders. The company, which has 21 similar centres throughout the UK, employs circa 29,500 people.
54. The company opened slightly earlier than planned in May 2020. 600-700 fulfilment associate roles were planned to be recruited to and most will be permanent and 40 hour per week positions. It is anticipated that a further 600 positions will be created late Autumn 2020 to help meet peak seasonal demand.
55. To support Amazon with its recruitment, Darlington Borough Council, supported by the Combined Authority have created an Amazon Recruitment Working Group. The group have developed Terms of Reference to coordinate the activities of a number of

organisations aiming to support Tees Valley residents with training and support to gain employment.

56. Amazon have previous experience of working with PeoplePlus Group Ltd and Staffline, an outsourced workforce provider to recruit to its vacancies; and have confirmed that PeoplePlus Group Ltd are their preferred partner for the co-ordination and delivery of employability programmes that will support Tees Valley targeted residents gain employment with the company for the fulfilment associate roles. An employability programme has been developed that offers a blend of employability and warehousing training with a guaranteed interview with Amazon for individuals who successfully complete the programme.
57. The Combined Authority has worked with PeoplePlus Group Ltd to ensure that their offer dovetails with appropriate training providers and maximised the use of the existing public funding, including devolved Adult Education Budget and Tees Valley ESF Skills Support for the Unemployed programmes.
58. To date 222 residents have benefited from training funded by AEB and ESF, of which 178 completed an application and 96 gained work.

### **Addressing Long-Term Unemployment**

#### **Tees Valley Routes to Work (RTW)**

59. Prior to Covid19 the Tees Valley Routes to Work Pilot was progressing well in supporting those most distant from the labour market into, or closer to, sustainable employment.
60. Tees Valley Routes to Work (RTW) is a Department of Work and Pensions Innovation Pilot. The Combined Authority as part of the devolution deal negotiations secured via a competitive process £6m to deliver this pilot. Cabinet agreed to provide £1.5m as match funding, creating a total fund of £7.5m. The Pilot commenced in April 2018 and was originally planned to deliver until 31st March 2021. The Pilot is co-ordinated by the Combined Authority and delivered locally by the five Tees Valley Local Authorities.
61. The pilot aims to work with those most disengaged from the labour market, to support them to engage, identify and address any potential barriers they may face in gaining employment. This approach includes the supply of an intensive key worker that provides individualised support to the people engaging. It also provides extended in-work support for those successful in gaining employment.
62. Routes to Work is an opportunity to test new ways of collaborative working at a local level which takes a holistic approach centred around the needs of the individual, with the innovative use of dedicated Key Workers. By working together, we have developed multi-agency delivery teams to embed focussed activities within existing Local Authority and third party services. A key outcome of the pilot is to test intensive support, multi-agency working and in-work support to measure the overall impact on outcomes for the people engaged and the value for money to the overall public purse.

63. Performance to date:

The following table provides a Tees Valley wide summary of the targets and performance to date:

	Engaged on the Pilot	Making Positive Improvements	Making Significant Improvements	Into Work
Targets March 2022	4000	3560	1483	600
Performance 29/02/20	2523	2116	1061	449

64. DWP visited Tees Valley on 12<sup>th</sup> February 2019 to carry out an audit on the Pilot. The audit had a specific focus on finance and was an integral part of assessment to confirm the receipt of the final payment of £2.5m in March 2020. The audit feedback was very positive and as a result have now released the final payment to the Combined Authority.
65. The RTW Pilot was due to end on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021. Following conversations with DWP regarding the potential extension of the RTW Pilot, the Combined Authority submitted a change request to DWP to propose a time extension of the Pilot until 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022. This will enable the utilisation of the significant underspend in the budget. This included a suggested re-profile and appropriate increase in anticipated outputs. In line with the audit assessment this extension has now been granted to March 2022. The pilot will now aim to engage with a total of 4000 long-term unemployed Tees Valley residents and support a total of 600 into employment.
66. The Combined Authority are now working with DWP to consider how to best utilise this project to support more people whose jobs are affected by Covid19.
67. The appointed evaluators of the Routes to Work pilot, Rocket Science, have submitted their interim evaluation report which has been agreed and subsequently signed off by the Pathways to Work workstream, chaired by Chris Renahan of Stockton Borough Council. This workstream act as the formal steering group for this pilot.
68. The Combined Authority and steering group have worked with Rocket Science to produce an additional piece of work to look at the impact of Covid19 on this project, consider what flexibilities could be requested to support more people and examine how we identify people affected by Covid19 who could be at risk of long term unemployment.
69. Discussions with DWP are continuing in relation to the impact assessment element of the evaluation and a workshop was held on 25<sup>th</sup> February to define the impact assessment

and the requirements of the evaluation. DWP have agreed to enable a secondment of a suitably experienced analyst to their department to access their data on people helped by Routes to Work to track their progress and employment. This arrangement with DWP will enable access to data from a comparable group of people that have been engaged with mainstream DWP programmes to assess the effectiveness of this pilot. This may now be affected by Covid19.

70. As part of the evaluation a wealth of individual case studies have been collated and the individual stories and progress achieved by the people accessing support are heart wrenching. This includes comments that this programme of support appeared at a team when an individual was contemplating suicide but now has a steady job and is looking forward to their future.
71. To add to the existing Communications and Marketing strategy of the Routes to Work Pilot, a promotional video has been produced that demonstrates the Innovation Pilot in action. The aim is to showcase the ethos of the Pilot by providing real life case studies and success stories with a view to promote the offer of the Pilot to partners, potential referrers, participants and employers.
72. In addition to participant interviews the video also demonstrates the Key Worker approach, community engagement and employment. For example, snippets of quotes from various participants on the programme, discussions between participants and Key Workers in a community environment and participants at their place of employment, including discussions with some of their employers.

### **Employability Support Programme Mapping**

73. The Combined Authority is progressing with the employability support mapping work which involves analysis of current employment and employability support and data across the Tees Valley.
74. A timeline has been developed in order to highlight the specific end dates of mainstream provision with a view to identify the target cohorts and ensure consideration is given to gaps in provision. This work will identify any duplication and inform the need for new programmes of activity. This work will help to inform future funding allocations and investments, including the UK Shared Prosperity Fund.

### **Creating a Tees Valley Careers and Enterprise Initiative**

#### **Tees Valley Careers.com**

75. In September 2018 the [TeesValleyCareers.com](https://www.teesvalleycareers.com) initiative was launched for all schools and colleges in Tees Valley. TeesValleyCareers.com aims to provide more effective, informed and high quality Careers and Enterprise Education in all educational establishments. This includes primary schools, Special Educational Needs and Disability Schools (SEND), Pupil Referral Units, Secondary Schools, Sixth Form Colleges and Further Education Colleges to include all young people in Tees Valley.
76. The careers work stream chaired by Professor Jane Turner, Pro-vice Chancellor, University of Teesside, continues to oversee and develop further the specific items and activities to be implemented. Recent developments include; creating an on-line self-

managed employer engagement portal, supporting the further development of the pupil element of the Careers website, reviewing the continued good performance of schools and colleges against the national careers benchmarks and developing the approach to support Primary Schools.

77. In June 2018 cabinet agreed £3m to be allocated to this item and agreed the five key areas for development highlighted below. £2.1m of the £3m is directed to provide funding for schools to deliver improved Careers Education.
78. As of July 2020, secondary schools and colleges have drawn down £1.2m (97% of the careers funding allocation). The evaluation process has commenced to both review what impact has been achieved and increase the take up of the fund. This is closely monitored by Hub Lead and Enterprise Coordinators who are working very closely with education establishments to support them with their career funding requests. An evaluation of the activities supported with this funding is underway. A full report will be presented to the careers workstream to consider.
79. The Enterprise Adviser Network (EAN) programme is part funded by the national Careers and Enterprise Company(CEC) and provides support to connect local businesses with schools and colleges. The Combined Authority recruits Enterprise Advisers who are employees from local business to work at a strategic level with a school/ college's Senior Leadership Team.
80. Businesses in Tees Valley have responded well to enabling their employees to become Enterprise Advisors and Tees Valley consistently performs better than other areas in terms of numbers matched to schools.
81. In Tees Valley 70 schools/colleges (100%) have engaged with the programme. They have access to 77 Enterprise Advisers recruited from 59 Tees Valley businesses.
82. In addition to engaging businesses in the Enterprise Advisor Network we have an ambition to engage at least 1,000 businesses in our schools and colleges. The Combined Authority engages and assists businesses to deliver activities in schools. Since November 2018, 886 businesses have now volunteered to engage with schools and colleges.
83. The [TeesValleyCareers.com](https://www.teesvalleycareers.com) initiative was initially launched during Careers Week in March 2019 and is linked to the Combined Authority's main website. The website has now been redeveloped to provide more accessible information for young people and was launched in July.

### **Tees Valley Careers Hub Pilot**

84. In August 2018 the Combined Authority were successful in a bid to the Careers and Enterprise Company (CEC) to be one of 20 national careers hubs. Due to the success of phase 1 of the pilot, CEC launched a second phase and TVCA have been successful



in securing an extension to the existing Tees Valley hub. All 11-18 education establishments are now part of the Tees Valley Hub. The aim of the Hub is to support schools and colleges to meet the Gatsby Benchmarks and ultimately improve outcomes for young people.

85. Each school within the Hub received a virtual wallet of additional funding which enabled them to choose activities from a list of identified providers to help them to meet the benchmarks in the different areas. They have also had the opportunity to undertake Careers Leaders training to enable their staff to be fully equipped to achieve the benchmarks. To date 46 Career Leaders have registered for the level 6 training. The Tees Valley careers team are encouraging the remaining Careers Leaders to complete the Career and Enterprise Company online training if they do not have the capacity to undergo the level 6.
86. Monthly workshops were provided for all Hub schools to share learning, increase the skills and knowledge around each of the Gatsby benchmarks and how to achieve these. Whilst several were cancelled these have now been moved to an online version at the direct request from school staff. A community of best practice has also been established enabling and encouraging all hub schools and colleges to share their experiences around meeting the benchmarks both within their own geographical region and further afield across the Tees Valley. Bespoke support to individual schools is also in place where the need has been identified to ensure progress is made and impact measured.
87. Prior to Covid19 all Hub schools and colleges are making progress towards achieving the benchmarks supported by the Hub Manager and Enterprise Coordinators. Audit and support functions are carried out by the Combined Authority to ensure the data reported by education institutions is robust and accurate.
88. The Tees Valley Careers Hub is the best performing hub nationally as stated in the recent CEC annual State of the Nation report.
89. In 2019 the Tees Valley were nominated for 3 awards at the annual Careers Excellence Awards for; Careers and Enterprise Company 'Hub of the Year Award', 'Partnership of the Year Award' and 'SEND Champion of the Year' Award. We secured 3<sup>rd</sup> place for Hub, 2<sup>nd</sup> place for Partnership and 1<sup>st</sup> place for SEND Champion.
90. As lockdown was implemented much careers education did stall for several weeks, however it has been encouraging to note that the majority of establishments have now picked up their careers education work and have accessed much support and lesson plans provided by the Combined Authority. This has moved to online access but has been seen as a critical in continuing to support young people to consider their next steps.
91. Work has continued in developing the Primary Schools Careers Strategy. This has been developed with a group of representative primary schools, and although implementation is delayed it is ready to be implemented in the next academic year when appropriate.

### **National Careers Week**

92. The aim of National Careers Week (2<sup>nd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> March 2020) was to promote the importance of good career education and highlight to schools and colleges how they can implement

the Gatsby Benchmarks as outlined in the National Careers Strategy. National Careers Week 2020 was a huge success, many events were held in schools that included engaging employers, raising awareness of available jobs in Tees Valley and showcasing key projects and apprenticeships as routeways to achieving great careers. Some highlights include:

- Digital careers series – videos have been produced showcasing businesses in Tees Valley their company set up, job roles and career paths for young people
- Supporting education establishments in the coordination of activity from careers fairs, mock interviews, assemblies to work place visits.
- Providing a toolkit that education establishments can utilise during lessons for young people

**93.** One exciting development showcased both locally and nationally during National Careers Week was the “Tees Valley Big, Big Project”. This project developed in 2019 from a smaller project with Carmel College in Darlington and Jacobs saw 80 pupils engaged in solving an engineering challenge. Teams competed against each other to define the problem, provide a solution and design a prototype solution. They then presented this to a panel of judges who selected the winning solution. Additional employers provided legal (Endeavour Partnership) and design (Harvey and Hugo) challenge and support. As a result of working with these teams Jacobs identified and employed two female, engineering degree apprentices. Their story can be seen at [here](#)

**94.** The Department for Education has recently indicated that the funding to continue to Enterprise Advisor Network and the Hubs has been approved for another year to July 2022.

### **Opportunity North East**

**95.** The Department for Education (DfE), having been challenged by the Combined Authority and NELEP have launched an Opportunity Area initiative that identified 12 secondary schools in Tees Valley as requiring additional support to improve pupil outcomes. This is part of a £24m investment across a total of 28 schools in the North East and Tees Valley.

**96.** As a result of this work the Combined Authority has been awarded £311k for a two year programme of enhanced and targeted careers activity in the identified Tees Valley schools. This will provide additional mentoring, advice and guidance and employer engagement for targeted year 9 students.

97. The activity has commenced by securing an external provider for targeted information and guidance. The programme is ready to be implemented face to face in the Autumn term when appropriate.

## Investment

### Tees Valley Combined Authority Investment Plan (2017-21)

98. In the Education, Employment and Skills Strategy £12m was identified to deliver the required activities highlighted above. £2.5m remains to be allocated to support young people and £2.5m capital remains unallocated.

### European Social Fund (ESF)

99. The revised ESF allocation (following the review of the Operational Programme (OP) and the exchange rate uprating) is £84.5m in the Tees Valley LEP area. Tees Valley Combined Authority as an Intermediate Body has worked with the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) to ensure that this funding is directed to appropriate delivery for the benefit of Tees Valley residents and businesses.
100. Tees Valley has now fully committed those funds, plus an additional £5.4m for the YEI extension (under IP 1.3) and is one of only a very few LEP's to do so.
101. Tees Valley has allocated the funds to support activities linked to inclusion and engagement of vulnerable groups to move towards work, support employed people with low skills and support businesses to increase and improve their approach to skills development.
102. Unallocated ESF funds from other LEP areas have been clawed back by DWP, the Managing Authority and a Central Reserve Fund created with these funds.
103. Delivery under the ESF contracts co-financed by ESFA commenced on 1 April 2019. The following contracts support activity under the following Investment Priorities:

IP	Title	Lead Organisation
1.1	Skills Support for the Unemployed	Peopleplus Group Ltd
1.2	NEET (15-24 year olds)	Learning Curve Group Ltd
1.4	Community Grants	Hartlepool Borough Council
2.1	Skills Support for the Workforce and Redundancy	Calderdale College

- 104.** On 10 February, the ESFA confirmed that it has been working with the Managing Authority (MA) in planning the extension to the current ESF contracts that started 1 April 2019. The contracts (set out in the table above) are due to end recruitment of new starts on 31 December 2020 and complete all activity by 31 July 2021.
- 105.** The ESFA plan is to offer an extension to all providers to extend contracts until 31 March 2023 and increase the contract values by up to 50%, based on the availability of funding and performance of contracts.
- 106.** ESFA were planning to be in a position to amend provider contracts at the April 2020 Performance Management Point, however, due to Covid-19, this process has been delayed.
- 107.** Direct Bid Open Calls
- Tees Valley ESF IP 2.2 Improving the labour market relevance of education and training systems (which closed on June 25 2019)
- This call is now in the final stages Appraisal Process with the Managing Authority. At its meeting in February, the Tees Valley ESIF sub-committee was invited to provide advice to the Managing Authority and the Intermediate Body on each proposal. As the call has been oversubscribed the applications received are competitive.
- Two further calls were launched on August 12 (which closed on November 4) and are now also in the Appraisal Process with the Managing Authority (DWP). These calls were:
- Investment Priority 1.1 Access to employment for jobseekers and inactive people (Call Value £4.76m)
  - Investment Priority 2.1 Enhancing equal access to lifelong learning (Call Value £9.75m)
- 108.** Annual Intermediate Body Review (ESF)
- The ESF Managing Authority undertakes an Annual Review meeting with each Devolved Intermediate Body organisation, to monitor the performance of the Devolved Intermediate Body in carrying out its delegated functions, as well as their agreed management and control systems. The Annual IB Review (ESF) of the Combined Authority as an Intermediate Body took place on 11 February 2020 and has received positive feedback.
- 109.** Covid19 Impact on ESF projects
- Many ESF funded projects have seen a huge reduction in demand for provision, however many have continued to support engaged people, including supporting them to access online training where required.
- 110.** The Combined Authority continues to work with DWP to implement the flexibilities provided for these projects, extend the timeline of delivery where appropriate and/or request additional funding to ensure support is available for the anticipated increase in demand for these projects.

111. The Combined Authority is also consulting with stakeholders to consider if a request for a further ESF should be made from the ESF Reserve Fund. Timescales are challenging to gain any real impact from such a request but this is being considered.

#### **Immediate impacts of Covid-19 in Tees Valley**

112. TVCA are undertaking separate analysis to understand the impact of Covid-19 on Tees Valley businesses and the economy. This work includes understanding the impact of Covid-19 and developing an economic recovery plan based on assumptions about structural changes to the economy as well as business survey responses received from over 1,150 Tees Valley businesses.
113. Unemployment, redundancy, furlough and job vacancy data is also being reviewed on an ongoing basis and fed into the Tees Valley economic recovery plan.
114. The TVCA monthly unemployment update (July 2020) showed that 7.2% of the working age population in Tees Valley are claiming Universal Credit (UC) and searching for work, compared to 5.6% nationally. Compared to June 2019, there are an extra 14,426 claimants in June 2020.
115. 10.3% of 16-24 year olds in Tees Valley are claiming unemployment benefits, compared to 7.0% nationally. The 20-24 age range has the highest percentage of claimants across all local authorities with the exception of Middlesbrough, in which the 30-34 age range has the highest percentage of claimants, followed by the 35-39 age range.
116. As at 30 June, a total of 78,500 employments were furloughed in Tees Valley, an additional 11,100 employments from the May figures.
117. By the end of June, 96,000 or around one-third of all Tees Valley jobs had been either furloughed or supported through the Self-Employment Income Support Scheme (SEISS), the same rate as nationally.
118. Emerging recommendations from the economic recovery plan work suggests that going forward, the Tees Valley needs to focus on addressing the issues identified and developing a profile to respond to the opportunities available to the region, which includes but is not limited to:
- Support for the newly unemployed, and support for young people;
  - Protect the manufacturing and construction sectors, while ensuring continued activity among SMEs; and
  - Create the building blocks for future growth, by stimulating investment and creating the right conditions for the development of digital technology and clean energy.
119. It is recognised that some of the projections that have been included in the previous and more recent analysis will likely be overtaken by events following the pandemic. However, until the full consequences are known, these past projections remain the most reliable basis for considering future plans.

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## **Case Studies**

### **Apprenticeships**

#### **Case Study – Intellect UK Ltd**

Middlesbrough-based engineering company, Intellect UK have been a huge advocate of the benefits that incorporating apprentices in to their workforce brings to a business.

Apprenticeships have been at the heart of Intellect's workforce for over 20 years. They have contributed to the growth and the increased productivity of the company and helped combat the impact that an increased skills shortage in the industry has seen.

The company has a 'train to retain' ethos, and in the last five years has seen a retention rate of 91% of its apprentices. They understand the benefits that an apprentice can bring to the business and also provide an opportunity for the apprentice to start a career where they learn advanced skills through specialist on the job training.

This year they welcomed their largest intake of apprentices, employing a total of eight new recruits across a range of sectors within the business, including Accountancy, Health and Safety and numerous Engineering roles.

In recognition of their commitment to Apprenticeships and the success of their apprenticeship programme, Intellect were crowned regional winner of the SME Employer of the Year category at the prestigious North East National Apprenticeship Awards at a ceremony in September.

Former apprentice and now Intellect Director, John Thompson was thrilled to accept the award on behalf of the company and said: "Intellect are extremely honoured to receive this award and to be recognised for the work we do when it comes to developing our apprentices. Our apprenticeship programme is the backbone of our recruitment strategy, and I would highly recommend apprenticeships to all employers."

Managing Director, Fran Cormican said, "For over 20 years we have continuously invested in the youth of Teesside through our apprenticeship and training programmes. It's vitally important that we continue to fly the flag for Teesside and raise awareness of the opportunities that are available here. This will ensure that our region has a workforce for the future and can continue to prosper".

As well as their commitment internally, Intellect continue to be an ambassador for apprenticeships within the wider community too, working with local schools and organisations to promote the opportunities the region has to offer.

## **Careers Education**

### **All Saints Academy, Stockton**

All Saints Academy hosted a careers fayre on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> November. All year 11 students were invited to attend along with their parents/carers, and this was well attended with over half of the cohort attending. The event began with the Careers Lead introducing the evening providing an oversight of the variety of post 16 pathways that were available to students i.e. 6<sup>th</sup> form and FE colleges, HE establishments, employment and apprenticeship courses. There were important updates on the introduction of Technical Level awards and also changes to the apprenticeship program.

Parent and carers were also made aware of the school careers webpage and some of the links that were accessible to support careers provision. There was also an introduction letter given to all parent/carers to provide information about the START profile careers tool, and how parent/carers can use this to support their child in making career choices but also informing that they were able to use this themselves to research careers and courses etc.

Following the completion of the presentation the students and parent/carers were able to access a range of providers who were in attendance including post 16 colleges and FE providers who were well represented (Askham Bryan, Conyers, Egglecliffe, Stockton VI form, Bede College, Stockton Riverside, Queen Elizabeth VI form and Middlesbrough college) Technical providers (NETA & TTE) as well as Teesside University. Apprenticeship

and employment providers were also out in force with Stockton Council, Cummins, Yorkshire Bank, ITS, Careers at Sea, the RAF and Army also sending representatives. The NCS and Little League Sports were also in attendance to provide students with gap year/life skill development opportunities.

Feedback from students and parent/carers was very positive with numerous comments regarding the diversity of the post 16 providers and that a lot of information and guidance was gathered to support students with post 16 choices.

Feedback from post 16 providers was also positive with many providers indicating that they had access to a large number of students within the year group and that many meaningful discussions were had and overall the evening was judged a success.

The careers fayres are embedded into the Academy careers action plan and allow Y11 students, parent/carers and employers an opportunity to engage and seek post 16/careers advice.

Student and Parent/Carer feedback was very positive as the event “Allowed us to access a range of 6<sup>th</sup> form and FE colleges over one evening rather than having to attend lots of individual open evenings”, “An informative evening with some new information about post 16 provision and apprenticeship programmes, didn’t know anything about the Technical qualifications until this evening”, “I was unsure what course I want to do when I leave All Saints but I have now got a better idea about what and where I want to study” “I thought I was going to go to college but now I am keen to find out more about apprenticeships and how to find an apprenticeship provider”

Feedback from college providers was also positive

“I just wanted to say I have attended several careers fayres this academic year and previously in another area and last night’s was the best by far. Congratulations on a very productive evening. I am sure your students appreciate the hard work that went into organising the event. Feel free to pass this email onto your Head teacher as the evening was a huge success and that is largely down to your fantastic students and your hard work and dedication.”

“Thank you for organising this event – the conversation we had with All Saints students was very positive and we enjoyed the evening immensely”

“A great evening – we had lots of interest regarding our courses and hope to welcome a lot of your students to Middlesbrough College in the September of 2020.



## **AGENDA ITEM 7**

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

**AUGUST 13<sup>th</sup> 2020**

#### **REPORT OF CHAIR OF THE TEES VALLEY LOCAL ENTERPRISE PARTNERSHIP**

##### **PORTFOLIO UPDATE: PAUL BOOTH (CHAIR OF TEES VALLEY LOCAL ENTERPRISE PARTNERSHIP)**

##### **SUMMARY**

This report updates members of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee on activity relating to the Tees Valley Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) over the past year, in addition to further verbal updates to be provided at the meeting.

##### **Tees Valley Local Enterprise Partnership**

1. The Tees Valley LEP is the principal forum for collaboration between the public and private sectors for improving the economy of Tees Valley. It forms part of a national network of Local Enterprise Partnerships designated by central government.
2. The LEP is made up of 20 members, the majority of whom represent the private sector. Each private sector member has lead responsibility for a specific theme or economic sector. The membership also includes:
  - The Tees Valley Mayor and other Cabinet Members
  - A representative of Higher Education (the Vice Chancellor of Teesside University)
  - A representative of Further Education (collectively identified by the Further Education colleges operating in the area, and rotating bi-annually)
  - Health Sector Representative (who can be from either the public or private sector).
  - An observer from a Business Representative Organisation (rotating annually and collectively identified by the North East England Chamber of Commerce, Federation of Small Businesses and Confederation of British Industry).
  - LEP members are also associate members of the Combined Authority Cabinet.
3. In 2018, the Combined Authority Cabinet committed to achieving a 50/50 gender balance in the membership of the LEP and to increasing overall diversity by 2020. As Cabinet and the LEP comprise the same membership, this will result in greater equality across both groups.
4. Existing membership includes more male representatives (12) in comparison to female (8). It was therefore agreed that private sector members who had served an initial 2-year term in 2019, would have this extended for 1 year only, to allow a recruitment campaign focused on increasing equality and diversity to take place.

5. A recruitment campaign was subsequently launched in December 2019 to recruit a new LEP Chair and private sector LEP members, with a deadline of February 24<sup>th</sup> for the receipt of applications and a target of new members and the Chair being agreed by Cabinet at the Combined Authority AGM in July 2020.
6. Due to the outbreak of the Coronavirus, the LEP and Informal Cabinet Meeting on April 14<sup>th</sup> 2020 agreed to the LEP recruitment process being temporarily put on hold. The process will recommence at the earliest opportunity.
7. The private sector members whose terms are scheduled to be completed in 2020 are:
  - Paul Booth (Chair)
  - David Soley (Deputy Chair, Business Growth Lead and SME representative)
  - Graham Robb (Recognition PR and SME representative)
  - Angela Howey (EE and Business & Professional Services Lead)
  - Jerry Hopkinson (PD Ports & Transport Lead)
  - Mike Matthews (Manufacturing lead)
  - Siobhan McArdle (Health representative)
  - Nigel Perry (CPI and Research, Development & Innovation lead)
8. Following the recruitment of new members, thematic and sector leads will be confirmed to ensure private sector LEP members continue to play an active role in engaging the wider business community to influence the development of economic strategy, policy and programme design across Tees Valley.

### **Covid-19: Economic Recovery Planning**

9. Following the outbreak of Covid-19 and associated economic impacts, the LEP Chair and Members have been closely involved in Economic Recovery Planning. Members have provided local business intelligence to inform the recovery planning process and interventions at both national and local levels. Business intelligence from the LEP Chair and Members continues to be reported to government departments (BEIS and MHCLG) on a weekly basis, and a series of workshops have been held locally to discuss impacts for businesses and residents in Tees Valley, along with potential interventions to enable recovery.
10. The LEP will continue to be an important vehicle for assessing the impact of the Economic Recovery Plan for Tees Valley, and ensuring that this remains a live document that can respond rapidly to challenges and opportunities as they emerge.

### **Key areas of activity in 2019-2020**

11. Some of the key areas considered and progressed by the LEP over the past year are outlined below. These items relate to priorities in the Strategic Economic Plan (SEP), Tees Valley Investment Plan (2019-2029) and Local Industrial Strategy (LIS – local draft agreed by Cabinet in July 2019).

12. Education and Skills - Professor Paul Croney, LEP Higher Education Representative and Zoe Lewis, LEP Further Education representative, led a discussion about policy priorities for the Higher Education Sector, along with current course uptake and existing challenges for the sector. In addition to this discussion, Brenda McLeish, LEP Education, Employment and Skills Lead, provided valuable insights into the current challenges within the national, regional and local skills arena, highlighting the need to provide greater clarity and support for the uptake of apprenticeships, sharing training needs and sector skills shortages. LEP representatives engage on an ongoing basis to influence Education, Employment and Skills (EES) policy, including through the EES Partnership Board and its subgroups.
13. Health - Siobhan McArdle, LEP Health Lead led a discussion on health challenges facing Tees Valley. This included ongoing work with Nigel Perry, LEP lead for Research, Development and Innovation, about the projects and resources that could be developed and deployed using regional research strengths and innovation assets to tackle existing challenges.
14. Good Employers Charter - Angela Howey, LEP Business & Professional Services Lead, proposed that consideration be given to the development of a Tees Valley Good Employers Charter. The Charter aims to support employers to identify and provide good jobs and deliver opportunities for local people to progress and develop. The Charter is currently being developed and will be discussed at an upcoming LEP meeting.
15. Digital skills and business - Mark South, Digital Lead, introduced analysis of the digital sector and digital skills in the Tees Valley, which was commissioned by the LEP as part of the evidence base for the Local Industrial Strategy. This presentation informed and continues to influence the strategic thinking around the Local Industrial Strategy and several new projects in development to support the future digital sector in the Tees Valley. Mark is positively engaging with Combined Authority officers and continues to play an important role in shaping the plans and strategy for growing the digital sector within Tees Valley.
16. Transport - Jerry Hopkinson, Transport, Infrastructure and Logistics Lead, has worked closely with the Combined Authority to develop the Transport Strategy, in order to improve the internal and external connectivity of Tees Valley. Given Jerry's strong expertise and wealth of experience in this area, he continues to provide valuable support to officers and business representatives, which actively informs ongoing projects, programmes and planned investments.
17. Culture – Annabel Turpin, Culture Lead, has worked closely with the Combined Authority to identify the value of Culture and Tourism to economic development in Tees Valley, and to set key strategic priorities. Annabel continues to work closely with the Combined Authority to inform the development of the plans and projects to heighten the role Culture and Tourism plays within the Tees Valley economy. In response to Covid-19, the Mayor appointed Annabel to head up a Task Force to support the recovery of the culture and tourism sector in the region. The Task Force will be made up of leaders and experts across tourism, hospitality, the visitor economy, culture, creative arts, digital and further education. Its aim will be to help secure jobs and help boost growth over the next 12 months and beyond.

18. NPIF and Business Growth – David Soley, Deputy Chair and Business Growth Lead, has led on work on the Northern Powerhouse Investment Fund (NPIF), ensuring that the resources support investment in local businesses along with wider economic growth in key sectors for the Tees Valley economy. Progress updates on performance of the fund have been provided to the LEP.

### **Involvement in NP11 and LEP Network**

19. NP11 is a Government-funded network consisting of the Chairs of the 11 Local Enterprise Partnerships in the North of England. The group was established in July 2018 to support the government's Northern Powerhouse agenda.
20. Tees Valley LEP Chair and Deputy Chair attend monthly NP11 meetings, providing insights and influence on key policy areas for the Combined Authority and NP11.
21. The Tees Valley LEP has taken an active role in relation to the NP11 Energy workstream and has led the agenda relating to clean energy and the hydrogen economy. This supports the development of a sustainable energy economy across the NP11 and influences national energy and low carbon policy, aligned to Tees Valley priorities and objectives.
22. The LEP provided an overview of its impact on the economic development of Tees Valley, alongside a case study on Clean Energy ambitions, which provided important content for the NP11 Prospectus. The case study centred upon our plans for Carbon Capture Utilisation and Storage (CCUS) and our region's capacity to develop a hydrogen economy.
23. The Tees Valley LEP also plays an active role in the national LEP Network. This provides the opportunity to influence national policy, share information and best practice between LEPs, including at an annual LEP Chairs' meetings with the Prime Minister.
24. This network provides a valuable mechanism for the Tees Valley LEP. In particular, the LEP Network has been important in supporting the latest LEP recruitment campaign through advertising and sharing through key networks.
25. The Tees Valley LEP Deputy Chair and other LEP Members have been involved in shaping the recovery planning activities of the NP11 in response to Covid-19. This has included influencing the national approach, through involvement in Roundtable discussions with Ministers, covering topics such as Clean Energy and support for SMEs.

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**AGENDA ITEM 8****REPORT TO THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE****13th AUGUST 2020****TEESSIDE INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT UPDATE****TIAL UPDATE****SUMMARY**

This report updates members of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee on significant recent developments at the Teesside International Airport Limited.

**DETAIL****IMPACT OF COVID-19**

1. Due to COVID-19, the airport ceased commercial flights on 25th March, and the planned start of the development work on the Southside was also suspended. The non-commercial flights with Cobham continued throughout the lock-down period, as well as the on-going property rental, including the addition of Willis Asset Management.
2. The Airport has implemented a comprehensive reopening plan to ensure our staff, customers and partners are able to access services in a safe manner. The plans followed all Government guidance and requirements for the industry with our dedicated teams ensuring all aspects of the Airport layout and reconfiguration complied with the relevant guidelines.
3. Due to the relatively low-level of commercial flight activity at the airport in the period prior to the lockdown, the impact of COVID-19 has mostly been confined to a delay in the successful implementation of the business plan, rather than any significant increase in operating losses.

**COMMERCIAL ACTIVITY**

4. Talks continue to progress with several carriers across all charter, scheduled and low-cost markets. The impact of Covid-19 has put major strain on airline forward planning given all focus is still currently on trying to restart and salvage some of this summer.
5. The lockdown period has been used to further discussions and renegotiate contracts with the existing commercial airlines (Eastern Airways, KLM), as well as with other potential partners. Flights recommenced with Eastern Airways on 24th June and flights are due to recommence with KLM on 3rd August. KLM have also signed a new 5-year deal with the airport during the lockdown period and it has been successful in negotiating an agreement to introduce a daily flight to Heathrow. These are considered significant developments in the current climate.

6. The Southside development program has now also recommenced and there are a number of opportunities being discussed with potential tenants. None of these are as yet at a stage where we can discuss them but should bring revenue to TIAL in due course.
7. Consultants have been commissioned to begin work on the designs for the redevelopment of the station. This commission extends to the end of GRIP (Governance for Railway Investment Projects) Stage 3, which is the option selection stage, and is scheduled to be complete by no later than January 2021.

## **OTHER DEVELOPMENTS**

8. The impact of the above has made planning at TIAL very difficult this year and it is likely that this will continue for some months. Once we have reached a level of stability, TIAL will look to update the budget for the coming financial year.

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REPORT TO THE OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

13<sup>th</sup> AUGUST 2020

REPORT OF GROUP CHIEF EXECUTIVE

DELEGATED DECISIONS JUNE-AUGUST 2020

SUMMARY

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

Title	Amount	Date signed	Key Decision
<p><b>Bus Corridors (key decision made previously)</b> There are a number of strategic bus corridors across Tees Valley where there is considered to be potential to grow passenger numbers. There is a need to take forward detailed investigative studies for each of these corridors to identify improvement options. Investment in these corridor improvements will complement the work being progressed on a bus partnership with operators. The improvements should make bus travel more attractive. Furthermore, improving the efficiency of bus movements on these corridors and reducing journey times also has the potential to free up capacity, meaning frequency could be increased on these routes or buses could be redeployed to improve coverage in other areas.</p>	200,000	04/06/20	No
<p><b>Apprenticeship wage subsidy (key decision made previously)</b> To provide immediate support to businesses to create new apprenticeships for young people. This is in direct response to the dramatic decline in Apprenticeship creation as a result of COVID19, this decline is expected to increase further as the Job Retention Scheme reduces. In the recent Business</p>	990,000	16/06/20	No

Title	Amount	Date signed	Key Decision
<p>Survey 69% of businesses responding stated they had furloughed apprentices and 35% stated they could no longer commit to employing an apprentice. This additional product will align with national and local support offers and TVCA will also revise and extend the current employer grant support for Employers which is provided for within the Employment and Skills Programme.</p> <p>The proposal will provide an incentive to businesses creating a new apprenticeship for 16-20 year olds in priority, high growth or sectors most affected by COVID19. The incentive will provide a grant equivalent to 100% of the Apprentices wages in their first 6 months of employment and 50% for the remainder of the apprenticeship employment, up to a maximum of two years. It will be a condition that the employer pays the national minimum wage not the national minimum Apprenticeship wage where applicable.</p>			
<p><b>Cultural Industries &amp; Visitor Economy Recovery Programme (key decision made previously)</b></p> <p>This project will facilitate the delivery of a suite of interventions designed to specifically support the economic recovery of Cultural Industries and Visitor Economy Business in Tees Valley which have been severely impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. The interventions identified have been developed through engagement with a wide range of sector representatives; analysis by Vivid Economics; analysis of responses to the TVCA Business Survey; analysis of responses to the North East Culture Partnership sector survey; and ongoing engagement and analysis of national bodies such as Visit Britain, Creative England and Arts Council England.</p> <p>The request for £1m advance funding is being sought from the unallocated Culture &amp; Tourism programme budget to enable delivery of this programme, with some elements requiring a particularly rapid response to enable the sector to re-open in-line with Government's easing of restrictions.</p>	1,000,000	25/06/20	No
<p><b>Supported bus services</b></p> <p>The Department for Transport (DfT) originally provided funding for supported bus services in 2020-21 as revenue support to help Local Transport Authorities (LTAs) provide more bus services in their area. The DfT originally expected this funding to either improve current local bus services, restore lost bus routes or support new services. The DfT subsequently offered LTAs the flexibility to decide whether to use some or all of their funding allocation on retaining or restoring services impacted by COVID-19. TVCA has been allocated £207,560 to be spent in 2020/21.</p>	207,560	30/06/20	Yes



Title	Amount	Date signed	Key Decision
<p>TVCA has been working very closely with the bus operators to ensure service provision responds to the needs of communities during the COVID-19 period. Operators have focussed on providing daytime weekday services to ensure adequate provision for people relying on the bus to travel to work or access essential services. Discussions have been held with the operators to maximise the impact from this funding allocation.</p>			
<p><b>SSI devolved Taskforce funding for the Steel Heritage project – Room to Grow. (key decision made previously)</b></p> <p>This delegated decision is to approve and release £200k of SSI devolved Taskforce funding for the Steel Heritage project – Room to Grow. Applications to the Tees Valley Combined Authority for devolved SSI Taskforce funding would usually be approved at the meeting of the SSI Taskforce, following the Combined Authority providing a recommendation to support a given funding proposal. However, given the exceptional circumstances arising as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic it has been agreed by the Chair of the Taskforce and the Department of Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy to approve the Room to Grow project for SSI devolved funding under delegated powers adhering to the TVCA Assurance Framework.</p> <p>Within the SSI devolved funding pot £200k was ringfenced to support Steel Heritage projects - following successful appraisal in line with the Assurance Framework this Delegated Decision provides approval of the application for Steel Heritage funds in respect of the Room to Grow (Cleveland Ironstone Mining Museum) project and commits the full £200k to the project to fund its delivery.</p> <p>In summary, the Room to Grow project will see SSI Steel Heritage funds part fund both the capital construction of Cleveland Ironstone Mining Museum expansion and the capital construction of a new exhibition of 'Iron and Steel' with the aim of attracting an additional 6,000 visitors p.a. The full project cost totals £1.9m with SSI funding providing match to £800k of Coastal Communities funding, £800k of Heritage Lottery funding plus an additional £100k raised locally.</p>	200,000	30/06/20	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 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	Microsoft Teams Live Event	Teesside International Airport Update  LEP Portfolio Briefing  EES Portfolio Briefing
Mid September 2020 - TBC	TBC	BEIS Business Case
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

- Sub Committee – Draft Budget meeting – December
- O&S report from Sub Committee for agreement – early January
- STDC - LT Plan and Measures
- 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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