

TEES VALLEY COMBINED AUTHORITY CABINET

Jurys Inn, Middlesbrough at 10.00am on Thursday 24th January 2019

These minutes are in draft form until approved at the next Cabinet meeting and are therefore subject to amendments.

| <u>ATTENDEES</u> | |
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| <u>Members</u> | |
| Mayor Ben Houchen (Chair) | Tees Valley Mayor |
| Mayor David Budd | Mayor of Middlesbrough |
| Councillor Christopher Akers-Belcher | Leader, Hartlepool Borough Council |
| Councillor Bob Cook | Leader, Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council |
| Councillor Stephen Harker | Leader, Darlington Borough Council |
| Councillor Sue Jeffrey | Leader, Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council |
| Paul Booth | Chair, Tees Valley LEP |
| <u>Associate Members</u> | |
| David Soley | Member of Tees Valley LEP |
| Darren Hankey | Member of Tees Valley LEP |
| Jerry Hopkinson | Member of Tees Valley LEP |
| Graham Robb | Member of Tees Valley LEP |
| Angela Howey | Member of Tees Valley LEP |
| Mark South | Member of Tees Valley LEP |
| Albert Pattison | Member of Tees Valley LEP |
| Vikki Jackson-Smith | Member of Tees Valley LEP |
| Brenda McLeish | Member of Tees Valley LEP |
| Sarah Glendinning | Observer, on behalf of the Tees Valley Business Representative Bodies |
| <u>Apologies for Absence</u> | |
| Professor Paul Croney | Member of Tees Valley LEP |
| Mike Matthews | Member of Tees Valley LEP |
| Annabel Turpin | Member of Tees Valley LEP |
| Nigel Perry | Member of Tees Valley LEP |
| Siobhan McArdle | Member of Tees Valley LEP |
| <u>Officers</u> | |
| Neil Schneider | Chief Executive, Stockton Borough Council |
| Tony Parkinson | Chief Executive, Middlesbrough Borough Council |
| Paul Wildsmith | Managing Director, Darlington Borough Council |
| Amanda Skelton | Chief Executive, Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council |
| Gill Alexander | Chief Executive, Hartlepool Borough Council |
| Julie Gilhespie | Chief Executive, Tees Valley Combined Authority |
| Martin Waters | Head of Finance, Resources and Housing, Tees Valley Combined Authority |
| Linda Edworthy | Strategy Director, Tees Valley Combined Authority |
| Alison Fellows | Investment Director, Tees Valley Combined Authority |

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| Sarah Brackenborough | Governance Manager, Tees Valley Combined Authority |
| Andrew Nixon | Monitoring Officer, Tees Valley Combined Authority |

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| <p>TVCA 56/18</p> | <p>DECLARATION OF INTERESTS</p> <p>Councillor Sue Jeffrey, Councillor Christopher Akers-Belcher, Councillor Stephen Harker, Councillor Bob Cook and Mayor David Budd declared personal interests as their respective Local Authorities are shareholders of Durham Tees Valley Airport.</p> <p>Mayor Ben Houchen, Councillor Sue Jeffrey, Mayor David Budd, Paul Booth and Graham Robb declared personal interests as members of the South Tees Development Corporation Board.</p> <p>Paul Booth declared a pecuniary interest due to his involvement with the South Tees Development Corporation.</p> <p>Graham Robb declared a personal interest as Director of Recognition PR and Recognition Services Ltd.</p> |
| <p>TVCA 57/18</p> | <p>TEES VALLEY INVESTMENT PLAN 2019 - 2029</p> <p>The Tees Valley Mayor, Ben Houchen, opened the meeting by thanking members of the public for their attendance. He then described the Combined Authority, its powers, how the Cabinet works at the Combined Authority and all those around the Cabinet table introduced themselves.</p> <p>The Mayor noted that the Cabinet was considering the refreshed investment plan, which included the proposed acquisition of Durham Tees Valley Airport and land at the South Tees Development Corporation (STDC) site. He thanked Councillor Sue Jeffrey, Leader of Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council, and Amanda Skelton, Chief Executive of Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council for all of their work to date since the closure of SSI and the subsequent creation of the STDC. He explained that the approval of the investment plan required unanimous agreement by all voting members on the Cabinet.</p> <p>The Mayor invited comments from the Cabinet.</p> <p>Graham Robb, LEP Member, welcomed the investment plan and the opportunities it provided, and outlined the reasons he was supporting the plan. David Soley, LEP Member, also welcomed the investment plan, and described the challenge the LEP members had provided during its development. He also acknowledged the challenge and questions, that had been provided by the Leaders of the Local Authorities, as the right thing to do.</p> <p>The Mayor acknowledged the significant amount of work that the Cabinet had undertaken together over the past few months. He thanked all those on the STDC Board for their hard work but in particular Paul Booth, Councillor Sue Jeffrey and Mayor David Budd. He noted that we would be holding government's feet to the fire to provide support to assist with the clean-up and development of the site.</p> |

Members of the public were given the opportunity to speak. In summary:

- There was support for the proposal to purchase the airport;
- Expansion plans for the airport and possible future routes was raised;
- Clarification on the current situation with agreeing a proposed operator was requested;
- Councillor Thomson, member of TVCA Overview and Scrutiny Committee, noted that the Committee had looked at the plans for the airport and would be further scrutinising the details as plans develop.

The Mayor thanked members of the public for their support. He outlined that TVCA would be working hard to bring in more flights, and regain a link to London, but that it was also very important to continue to work with KLM to retain the existing link to Schipol. Work on an agreement with an operator was ongoing and had been agreed by the operators own Executive Board, but a public announcement at this stage was not possible for various reasons.

Further comments from the Cabinet members were invited.

Councillor Christopher Akers-Belcher, Leader of Hartlepool Borough Council and TVCA Portfolio Holder for Education Employment and Skills, spoke in support of the Investment Plan and noted that he would be voting in favour of its approval. He drew attention to the proposed investments in education, employment and skills across Tees Valley as being the biggest investment TVCA will make in the next 10 years. He thanked the LEP and the wider business community for their support and hard work.

Mayor David Budd, Middlesbrough Council and TVCA Portfolio Holder for Culture, Tourism and Innovation, spoke of the huge opportunities in the Investment Plan but noted caution over guarantees with future funding, particularly European funding. He also spoke about the hard work that needs to take place to ensure delivery of the plan, including continuing to review the risks of major investments such as the airport, and that government has a moral obligation to provide funding for TVCA to buy land at the STDC site.

Councillor Stephen Harker, Leader of Darlington Borough Council and TVCA Portfolio Holder for Transport, spoke about the risks associated with the airport investment and the need to continually make judgements on levels of investment throughout development and delivery of the plan. He noted his support for a thriving airport. He also drew attention to other significant investments being made in the investment plan, in particular those on internal transport links, and how important this was for young people to be able to access jobs across Tees Valley without the need for a car.

Councillor Bob Cook, Leader of Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council and TVCA Portfolio Holder for Housing and Regeneration, noted his support for the airport proposal and acknowledged the associated risks, but also acknowledged the risks of not doing anything. He also spoke about the establishment of the TVCA and the importance of making investments locally rather than Westminster doing this for us,

Councillor Sue Jeffrey, Leader of Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council and TVCA Portfolio Holder for Investment and Business Growth, spoke about the investment plan and its role in changing the future of the Tees Valley and creating jobs for residents. She welcomed the proposal to purchase land at

STDC and create jobs and commented that she was proud that the plan included investment in education, employment and skills and how this was much needed across Tees Valley to retain children in the region in the future. Councillor Jeffrey acknowledged that she had been asking a lot of questions on the airport proposal over recent weeks, and that it was her role to provide challenge as an elected member to ensure proper scrutiny of such large investments. She noted her intention to do everything she can to ensure the airport is a success but would also continue to question and challenge.

The Cabinet voted unanimously to approve the Tees Valley Investment Plan 2019 – 2029.

RESOLVED that the ten-year Investment Plan 2019 – 2029, including the detailed approval of the purchase of the airport and the acquisition of the majority of developable land at the South Tees Development Corporation site, as detailed in Appendices 2 and 3, be approved.