

North of Tyne Combined Authority

Cabinet

8 November 2018

Meeting held: The Ballroom, Morpeth Town Hall, Market Place, Morpeth, NE61 1LZ

Draft Minutes

Present:

Councillor: Mayor N Redfearn (Chair)

Councillors: W Daley, N Forbes, P Jackson, J McCarty and B Pickard

1 MEMBERSHIP OF THE NORTH OF TYNE COMBINED AUTHORITY (INCLUDING ALLOCATION OF CABINET PORTFOLIOS, AND THE APPOINTMENT OF THE CHAIR AND STATUTORY OFFICERS)

Submitted: A report of the Interim Monitoring Officer (previously circulated and copy attached to Official Minutes).

Members considered the report which confirmed the membership of the Cabinet of the North of Tyne Combined Authority, invited the Cabinet to appoint its Chair until an Interim Mayor was appointed and sought approval to the proposed allocation of the Cabinet portfolios.

RESOLVED – That:

- i. the appointment of the Cabinet members and substitute members as set out in Appendix 1 of the report be confirmed;
- ii. the allocation of the Cabinet portfolios as set out in Appendix 2 of the report be agreed;
- iii. Mayor N Redfearn be appointed as Chair; and
- iv. the statutory officers, as set out in section 4 of the report, be appointed and the office of the Interim Monitoring Officer be the principal office of the Authority for the service of documents.

ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE CHAIR AND MEMBERS

Upon taking the chair, Mayor N Redfearn welcomed everyone to the meeting. She spoke about the hard work and the long and difficult journey to achieve a devolution deal, and welcomed the many opportunities and improvements that the deal would

bring to the area and its people.

Cllrs Jackson and Forbes then spoke to welcome the devolution deal and to outline what it meant, including the opportunities, funding, powers and responsibilities it entailed, and how it would provide a stronger and more influential voice for the area, with closer working together and the opportunity to shape the area's own future.

2 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

There were no apologies for absence received.

3 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

4 **NORTH OF TYNE COMBINED AUTHORITY VISION AND EMERGING PRIORITIES FOR EARLY INVESTMENT**

Submitted: A report of the Head of Paid Service (previously circulated and copy attached to Official Minutes).

P Ritchie, the Head of Paid Service, introduced the report and the Vision, which was the key strategic document that described the objectives and priorities of the Combined Authority. She explained the key pillars of the Vision, highlighted the partnership working which would take the Vision forward and gave examples of how these proposals would be achieved through this strategic direction.

With economic growth at heart of the Vision, the Portfolio Holders spoke about the uniqueness of the opportunity the devolution deal presented in giving the North of Tyne area the power to take control and deliver on its Vision, including the following elements:

- nurturing and supporting local businesses and attracting more businesses to the area, thereby creating more and better jobs;
- providing opportunities for affordable homes in the area;
- achieving a better environment;
- ensuring a stronger voice, both nationally and internationally;
- putting the North of Tyne on the map;
- being in a better position for bidding for national funding;
- holding the government to account for the promised funding;
- closer working with partners;
- supporting key sectors and identifying new opportunities;
- improving the public transport assets, including rail, and improving connectivity;
- building upon the many great and diverse assets of the area, whilst building a modern economy;
- developing programmes to support the countryside and rural economy;
- building upon the national Industrial Strategy framework;
- supporting innovation and competitiveness;
- working to compensate for job losses due to technology;

- establishing programmes to enthuse children and young people in developing skills, resilience and ambition;
- creating a hotbed of talent and focusing on improving skills in the area;
- retaining graduate talent;
- working to provide career pathways;
- providing further training;
- improving education for all and building a strong foundation for the future;
- tackling unemployment;
- tackling inequalities, supporting the disadvantaged and closing the gap;
- working on what was important for the people of the area and driving improvements for the people of the area;
- shaping the area's own, inclusive future; and
- ensuring everyone understood they were a stakeholder in the future of the area.

The Chair, on behalf of the Cabinet, thanked all officers and elected members for their hard work to make the devolution deal happen.

RESOLVED – That:

- i. The Vision for the North of Tyne Combined Authority be approved
- ii. The progress on the introduction of the Investment Fund be noted.
- iii. The following projects be developed further (and the results of their appraisal be the subject of future reports):
 - Inspiring the development of STEM and Digital skills in young people;
 - Helping residents into work;
 - Attracting new businesses to the North of Tyne;
 - Enhancing Rural Business Growth.
- iv. The following projects be invited to apply for business case development funding:
 - Local full-fibre network proposal;
 - North Shields Town Centre Redevelopment / Fish Quay;
 - Energy Central Learning Hub in Blyth;
 - Targeted employment support for areas of the Newcastle with highest unemployment levels;
 - Economic opportunities associated with Northumberland, North Tyneside and Newcastle Rail Line.

5 PROCESS TO APPOINT AN INTERIM MAYOR

Submitted: A report of the Monitoring Officer (previously circulated and copy attached to Official Minutes).

Members considered the report which set out the process and timetable for the appointment of an Interim Mayor.

RESOLVED – That the process and timetable set out in the report be agreed, including the creation of an ad-hoc panel, consisting of Councillors W Daley, J McCarty and B Pickard, to consider the applications and make a recommendation to Cabinet.

6 **APPOINTMENTS TO COMMITTEES AND OTHER BODIES, AND PROGRAMME OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

Submitted: A report of the Monitoring Officer (previously circulated and copy attached to Official Minutes).

Members considered the report which sought the Cabinet’s approval of the appointments to NTCA’s committees and to other bodies, as well as the proposed programme of committee meetings.

RESOLVED – That:

- i. the appointments to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee set out in Appendix 1 of the report be agreed;
- ii. the appointments to the Audit and Standards Committee set out in Appendix 1 be agreed, and the Interim Monitoring Officer be authorised, in consultation with the Chair of the Cabinet, to undertake a process to appoint an independent co-opted member to chair that Committee and a process to appoint two independent persons for the purposes of the standards regime (as set out in paragraphs 3.2 to 3.4 of the report);
- iii. the appointments to the Housing and Land Board set out in Appendix 2 be agreed;
- iv. Mayor N Redfearn and Councillors N Forbes and P Jackson be appointed to the Joint Transport Committee, and Councillors C Johnson, J McCarty and W Daley be appointed to act as substitute members;
- v. Councillors J McCarty and C Johnson be appointed to the Tyne and Wear Sub-Committee of the Joint Transport Committee, and Councillors A Ainsley and B Pickard be appointed to act as substitute members;
- vi. the appointments to the Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee (which relates to the work of the Joint Transport Committee) as set out in Appendix 3 of the report be agreed;
- vii. the appointments to the Joint Audit Committee (which relates to the work of the Joint Transport Committee) as set out in Appendix 3 of the report be agreed;
- viii. Councillor N Forbes be appointed to Transport for the North (“TfN”) and Councillor P Jackson be appointed to act as a substitute member of TfN ;

- ix. Councillor C Johnson be appointed as a member of the TfN Scrutiny Committee and Councillor B Pickard be appointed to act as a substitute member of TfN's Scrutiny Committee; and
- x. the schedule of Cabinet and committee meetings at Appendix 4 of the report be agreed.

7 GOVERNANCE ARRANGEMENTS (INCLUDING THE ADOPTION OF THE CONSTITUTION, SEAL AND ASSURANCE FRAMEWORK)

Submitted: A report of the Monitoring Officer (previously circulated and copy attached to Official Minutes).

Members considered the report which sought the Cabinet's approval to adopt the Combined Authority's Constitution and Common Seal, and agree with central government the Assurance Framework in relation to the operation of the Investment Fund.

RESOLVED – That:

- i. the Constitution annexed at Appendix 1 be adopted;
- ii. the Common Seal of the Authority, a facsimile of which was appended to the report at Appendix 2, be adopted;
- iii. the Interim Head of Paid Service be authorised, in consultation with the Chair of the Cabinet, to finalise the terms of the Assurance Framework; and
- iv. the Interim Monitoring Officer be authorised to complete the Assurance Framework.

8 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, 4 December 2018 at 2pm.

Chair (signature).....

Date.....