

Leadership Board

20 March 2018

(2.00 - 2.25 pm)

Meeting held: Committee Room, Town Hall and Civic Offices, Westoe Road, South Shields, Tyne and Wear, NE33 2RL

APPROVED MINUTES

Present:

Councillor : Mayor N Redfearn (Chair)

Councillors: M Gannon, S Henig, P Jackson, A Kerr, J McCarty and H Trueman

North East Local G Hall
Enterprise
Partnership
Member:

75 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE (MEMBERS)

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors N Forbes and I Malcolm and Mr A Hodgson.

76 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

77 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 16 January 2018 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

78 UPDATES FROM THEMATIC LEADS

(a) Economic Development and Regeneration

Submitted: An update report of the Thematic Lead for Economic Development and Regeneration (previously circulated and copy attached to Official Minutes).

Members considered the report which provided an update on activity and progress under the Economic Development and Regeneration theme of the Combined Authority.

RESOLVED – That the report be noted.

(b) Employability and Inclusion

Submitted: An update report of the Thematic Lead for Employability and Inclusion (previously circulated and copy attached to Official Minutes).

Members considered the report which provided information on progress in delivering the Employability and Inclusion theme and Skills theme of the Strategic Economic Plan.

RESOLVED – That the report be noted.

(c) Transport and Digital Connectivity

Submitted: An update report of the Thematic Lead for Transport (previously circulated and copy attached to Official Minutes).

Members considered the report which provided an update on progress on activities under the Transport and Digital Connectivity theme of the Combined Authority.

RESOLVED – That the report be noted.

79 **NORTH EAST COMBINED AUTHORITY REVENUE BUDGET MONITOR 2017/18 AND CLOSURE OF ACCOUNTS PROCESS**

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

Members considered the report which provided an update on the 2017/18 Revenue Budget Monitor and sought related approvals. Members also noted the process for the closure of Accounts 2017/18.

RESOLVED – That:

- i. The report be noted;
- ii. The Leadership Board noted that revenue expenditure for the year was expected to be within the approved NECA budget, with the latest estimate of net expenditure of £81.417m in respect of the Transport budget and £0.690m in respect of the non-transport budget;
- iii. The revenue Grant to Nexus for 2017/18 be reduced by £3,333,000 to £57,557,000 for 2017/18, with the £3,333,000 saving being earmarked as part of the matching funding requirement for the DfT capital grant for Metro fleet replacement in future years;
- iv. The 2017/18 outturn would be reported to Leadership Board in June 2018; and
- v. The Leadership Board noted the closure of the 2017/18 accounts process and the implications with regard to the governance and sign-off arrangements, which required the earlier formal approval of the accounts

for 2017/18 in July 2018, instead of the previous approval date of September.

80 **NORTH OF TYNE PROPOSALS - CONSENT TO SECRETARY OF STATE'S ORDER**

Submitted:

- (i) A report of the Monitoring Officer (previously circulated and copy attached to Official Minutes); and
- (ii) A supplemental report of the Monitoring Officer, Head of Paid Service and Chief Finance Officer (previously circulated and copy attached to Official Minutes).

Members considered the two reports which provided an update on the recent consultation on North of Tyne proposals, including on the creation of a North of Tyne mayoral combined authority following the amendment of the current North East Combined Authority (NECA) boundaries. The report also discussed a Draft Order that had been received from the Secretary of State with regard to giving effect to the amendment of the NECA boundaries, the creation of the North of Tyne mayoral combined authority, the creation of joint transport governance arrangements and similar matters.

RESOLVED – That:

- i. The Leadership Board noted the substantial progress that had been made with the development of a draft Secretary of State Order to:
 - a. amend the boundaries of NECA to remove the North of Tyne local authority areas (Newcastle upon Tyne, North Tyneside and Northumberland);
 - b. create and give powers to a North of Tyne Mayoral Combined Authority;
 - c. create a Joint Transport Committee;
 - d. transfer transport related assets into the joint ownership of the two Combined Authorities;
 - e. make the Tyne and Wear Passenger Transport Executive (NEXUS) an executive body of each of the Combined Authorities and to amend legislation to extend its duties to both Combined Authorities;
 - f. make consequential amendments, including amendments to the NECA Order and relevant legislation, to give effect to the above.
- ii. An extraordinary meeting of the Leadership Board be convened for the purposes of deciding on the question of consent to a draft Order as soon as a further draft Order was prepared addressing the points set out in the report, possibly on 17 April 2018.
- iii. The Monitoring Officer would work with the Chief Legal Officers of the seven constituent authorities to develop a legally binding agreement reflecting the transport governance policy principles set out in the note at Appendix 1.
- iv. The Leadership Board would consider the terms of a legally binding agreement at a future meeting.

81 **DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

Tuesday, 17 April 2018 at 2pm (Extraordinary, Provisional)
Tuesday, 19 June 2018 at 2pm (Annual Meeting)

82 **EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC**

RESOLVED – That by virtue of paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A press and public be excluded from the meeting for the duration of consideration of agenda item 9 (Funding Approvals) because exempt information was likely to be disclosed and the public interest test against the disclosure was satisfied.