



Appendix 1 to this report is not for publication by virtue of paragraphs 1 (Information relating to an individual) and 2 (Information which is likely to reveal the identity of an individual.)of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972

Agenda Item 4
Report to the TVCA Cabinet
AGM – 27 June 2025
Report of the Group Chief Legal Officer

GOVERNANCE AND APPOINTMENTS

SUMMARY

This report details various appointments for agreement and confirmation by the Combined Authority Cabinet at its Annual General Meeting (AGM).

RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Combined Authority Cabinet:

- i. **NOTES** the position of the Chair of the Combined Authority as detailed in Paragraph 2;
- ii. **NOTES** the appointment of the Deputy Mayor as detailed in Paragraph 3;
- iii. **NOTES** the appointment to the Tees Valley Combined Authority Cabinet as detailed in Paragraph 4;
- iv. **NOTES** the proposed work to strengthen the role of Portfolio Holders amongst the Members of the Tees Valley Combined Authority Cabinet and **DELEGATES** to the interim Chief Executive, in consultation with Cabinet Members and the Monitoring Officer, the authority to finalise the new portfolios and new way of working, **SUBJECT TO** the Interim Chief Executive obtaining unanimous approval of all Cabinet members to the proposal, and to make the necessary changes to the TVCA Constitution as detailed in Paragraph 5;
- v. **APPROVES** the appointments to the Overview & Scrutiny Committee as detailed in Paragraph 6;
- vi. **APPROVES** the appointments to the Transport Committee as detailed in Paragraph 7;
- vii. **APPROVES** the appointments to the Audit & Governance Committee as detailed in Paragraph 8;

- viii. **RATIFIES** the amendment to the South Tees Development Corporation Constitution as approved by South Tees Development Corporation, in respect of Board quorum, as detailed in Paragraph 9.6.1 of this Report.
- ix. **RATIFIES** the proposed amendments to the South Tees Development Corporation Constitution, as detailed in Paragraph 9 **SUBJECT TO** approval of the same by South Tees Development Corporation Board;
- x. **NOTES** the appointments to the South Tees Development Corporation Board as detailed in Paragraph 9;
- xi. **APPROVES** the appointment of Councillor Alec Brown as Chair of South Tees Site Company Limited as detailed in Paragraph 10;
- xii. **NOTES** the appointment of the Chair of South Tees Development Corporation Audit & Governance Committee as detailed in Paragraph 11;
- xiii. **NOTES** the appointments to the Hartlepool Development Corporation Board as detailed in Paragraph 12;
- xiv. **RATIFIES** the amendments to the Hartlepool Development Corporation Constitution, as detailed in Paragraph 12 and **Appendix 6**;
- xv. **RATIFIES** the amendments to the Middlesbrough Development Corporation Constitution, as detailed in Paragraph 13 and **Appendix 7**;
- xvi. **NOTES** the appointments to the Middlesbrough Development Corporation Board as detailed in Paragraph 13;
- xvii. **APPROVES** the appointments to the Freeport Board as detailed in Paragraph 14;
- xviii. **NOTES** the position in respect of the Chair and Vice Chair of Overview & Scrutiny Committee and Audit & Governance Committee as detailed in Paragraph 15;
- xix. **NOTES** the membership of non-statutory committees as detailed in Paragraph 16;
- xx. **NOTES** the update on the membership of the Business Board, the proposed process to recruit a new Chair and Board Members and the proposal to review the Terms of Reference as detailed in Paragraph 17;
- xxi. **NOTES** the appointments to external bodies as detailed in Paragraph 18;
- xxii. **NOTES** the appointments to officer groups at Paragraph 19;
- xxiii. **NOTES** the members' allowances scheme for 2024-25 at paragraph 20 and **Appendix 2**;
- xxiv. **APPROVES** the minor amendments to the Tees Valley Combined Authority Constitution documents as set out at paragraph 21.2 and **Appendix 3**;
- xxv. **APPROVES further** amendments to the Tees Valley Combined Authority Constitution as referred to at Paragraph 21.6 and **Appendix 8** and
- xxvi. **NOTES** that a full review of the Constitution will be undertaken collaboratively with the constituent local authorities, aligned to the Best Value Notice Organisational Improvement Plan and presented to a future Cabinet for approval, including the changes required to the Mayoral Development Corporation's Constitutions.

DETAIL

1. Constitutionally, there are a number of items of business that the Combined Authority Cabinet is required to note, agree and approve at its AGM, and these are set out below.

Statutory Appointments

Chair and Deputy Mayor

2. Chair

- 2.1 Part 1, Paragraph 13, of the Tees Valley Combined Authority Constitution notes that the Mayor of the Tees Valley is the Chair of the Tees Valley Combined Authority Cabinet.
- 2.2 Cabinet is asked to **NOTE** that the Mayor is the Chair of the Combined Authority.

3. Deputy Mayor

- 3.1 Paragraph 107C of the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009 provides that the Mayor of the Combined Authority must appoint of the members of the Combined Authority to be the Mayor's deputy (Deputy Mayor).
- 3.2 The Tees Valley Combined Authority Constitution provides that the Mayor shall appoint a Deputy Mayor from amongst the Cabinet Members representing the Constituent Authorities, determined annually by rotation in the order set out in the Constitution.
- 3.3 In line with the rotation referred to at 3.2 above, Councillor Alec Brown, Leader of Redcar & Cleveland Borough Council, is appointed by the Mayor as the Deputy Mayor for the 2025-26 municipal year.
- 3.4 Cabinet is asked to **NOTE** the appointment of Councillor Alec Brown as Deputy Mayor.

4. Cabinet

- 4.1 Cabinet is the decision-making body for the Combined Authority. The Tees Valley Mayor chairs the Cabinet, which has previously been made up of the five Constituent Authority Leaders, and the Chair of the Business Board as a non-voting member.

- 4.2 The Legislation which sets out the requirements of the Tees Valley Combined Authority Cabinet is the Tees Valley Combined Authority Order 2016 ('TVCA Order'), Schedule 1, which states:

'1(1) Each constituent council must appoint one of its elected members to be a member of the Combined Authority.

(2) Each constituent council must appoint another of its elected members to act as a member of the Combined Authority in the absence of the member appointed under sub-paragraph (1) ("the substitute member").

(3) The Local Enterprise Partnership [the Business Board] must nominate one of its members to be a member of the Combined Authority.

(4) The Local Enterprise Partnership [the Business Board] must nominate another of its members to act as a member of the Combined Authority in the absence of the member appointed under sub-paragraph (3) ("the substitute member").

- 4.3 In accordance with Paragraph 1(1) of Schedule 1 of the TVCA Order, the Constituent Authorities and the Business Board have made the following appointments for Cabinet, and it is for Cabinet to note those appointments:

Chair / Tees Valley Mayor	Mayor Ben Houchen
Cabinet Member	Councillor Stephen Harker - Darlington
Cabinet Member	Councillor Brenda Harrison - Hartlepool
Cabinet Member	Mayor Chris Cooke - Middlesbrough
Cabinet Member/Deputy Mayor	Councillor Alec Brown – Redcar & Cleveland
Cabinet Member	Councillor Lisa Evans- Stockton
Member (Business Board Deputy Chair)	Matthew Ord

Substitute Cabinet Member (Darlington)	Councillor Chris McEwan
Substitute Cabinet Member (Hartlepool)	Councillor Pamela Hargreaves
Substitute Cabinet Member (Middlesbrough)	Councillor Philippa Storey
Substitute Cabinet Member (Redcar & Cleveland)	Councillor Carrie Richardson
Substitute Cabinet Member (Stockton)	Councillor Paul Rowling
Substitute Business Board Member	(TBC)

4.4 Cabinet is asked to **NOTE** the appointments to the Tees Valley Combined Authority Cabinet.

5. Cabinet Portfolio Holders

5.1 The Tees Valley Combined Authority Constitution provides that the Annual General Meeting of the Combined Authority shall agree the portfolio responsibilities of each of the Leaders and any functions delegated to them.

5.2 The portfolios of the Combined Authority have historically been as follows:

- Education, Employment and Skills;
- Business Growth and Net Zero;
- Inward Investment;
- Creative Place;
- Transport & Infrastructure.

5.3 Following the listening workshops, which were part of the development of the Tees Valley Combined Authority Organisational Improvement Plan, Cabinet members asked for the roles of Portfolio Holders to be better defined in terms of purpose and remit. The Organisational Improvement Plan (included as a separate item on the agenda) includes an action to review the Cabinet portfolios and strengthen the role of portfolio holders. There are on-going discussions between officers and Cabinet members to finalise the portfolios and new way of working. A **DELEGATION** is therefore sought to the Interim Chief Executive, in consultation with Cabinet Members and the Monitoring Officer, to finalise the new portfolios and new way of working, **SUBJECT TO** the Interim Chief Executive obtaining unanimous approval of all Cabinet members to the proposal, and make the necessary changes to the Constitution.

6. Overview and Scrutiny Committee

6.1 This statutory committee reviews the policies and operations of the Combined Authority, ensuring effective democratic scrutiny of decisions. Members have been appointed by each of the constituent authorities, on the basis of political balance across the Tees Valley as required by legislation and set out in the Tees Valley Combined Authority Constitution.

6.2 The Tees Valley Combined Authority Order 2016 provides that:

'(1) The Combined Authority must appoint at least three members of each of the constituent councils to the overview and scrutiny committee appointed by the Combined Authority, so that the members of the committee taken as a whole reflect so far as reasonably practicable the balance of political parties for the time being prevailing among members of the constituent councils.'

- 6.3 In order to reflect the balance of the political parties amongst the members of the constituent authorities, the constituent authorities have proposed the following appointments to the Tees Valley Combined Authority Overview & Scrutiny Committee and Cabinet is asked to approve these appointments:

Member	Councillor Ian Haszeldine	Darlington	Labour
Member	Councillor Sonia Kane	Darlington	Labour
Member	Councillor Andy Keir	Darlington	Conservative
Member	Councillor Rachel Creevy	Hartlepool	Labour
Member	Councillor John Nelson	Hartlepool	Labour
Member	Councillor Mike Young	Hartlepool	Conservative
Member	Councillor Ian Blades	Middlesbrough	Labour
Member	Councillor David Branson	Middlesbrough	Labour
Member	Councillor Dennis McCabe	Middlesbrough	MICA
Member	Councillor Lynn Pallister	Redcar & Cleveland	Labour
Member	Councillor Glyn Nightingale	Redcar & Cleveland	Liberal Democrat
Member	Councillor Craig Hannaway	Redcar & Cleveland	Independent
Member	Councillor Jim Beall	Stockton	Labour
Member	Councillor Tony Riordan	Stockton	Conservative
Member	Councillor Lynn Hall	Stockton	Conservative

Substitute Member	Councillor Mary Layton	Darlington	Labour
Substitute Member	Councillor David Ray	Darlington	Labour
Substitute Member	Councillor Heather Scott	Darlington	Conservative
Substitute Member	Councillor Gary Allen	Hartlepool	Labour
Substitute Member	Councillor Matthew Dodds	Hartlepool	Labour

Substitute Member	Councillor Rob Darby	Hartlepool	Reform
Substitute Member	Councillor Lewis Young	Middlesbrough	Labour
Substitute Member	VACANCY	Middlesbrough	Labour
Substitute Member	Councillor Ian Morrish	Middlesbrough	MICA
Substitute Member	Councillor Margaret O'Donoghue	Redcar & Cleveland	Labour
Substitute Member	Councillor Jemma Joy	Redcar & Cleveland	Liberal Democrat
Substitute Member	Councillor Wayne Davies	Redcar & Cleveland	Independent
Substitute Member	Councillor Mark Besford	Stockton	Labour
Substitute Member	Councillor Hilary Vickers	Stockton	Conservative
Substitute Member	Councillor John Coulson	Stockton	Conservative

6.4 Cabinet is asked to **APPROVE** the appointments to Overview & Scrutiny Committee as detailed in 6.3 above.

7. Transport Committee

7.1 This statutory committee reviews transport strategy and policies of the Combined Authority and makes recommendations to Cabinet.

7.2 The Tees Valley Combined Authority Constitution provides that:

- (a) the Transport Committee is Chaired by the Portfolio holder for Transport and Infrastructure;
- (b) members are drawn from each of the constituent authorities and are the executive member with transport responsibilities from each of those authorities;
- (c) the Tees Valley Business Board shall nominate one of its private sector members to attend Transport Committee meetings on a non-voting basis, with the right to fully participate in its deliberations.

7.3 The proposed appointments for the Tees Valley Combined Authority Transport Committee are:

Chair	Transport Portfolio Holder	Combined Authority Cabinet Member
Member	Councillor Libby McCollom	Darlington Executive Member
Member	Councillor Karen Oliver	Hartlepool Executive Member
Member	Councillor Theo Furness	Middlesbrough Executive Member
Member	Councillor Carl Quartermain	Redcar & Cleveland Executive Member
Member	Councillor Paul Rowling	Stockton Executive Member
Substitute Member	Councillor Neil Johnson	Darlington
Substitute Member	Councillor Matthew Dodds	Hartlepool
Substitute Member	Councillor Peter Gavigan	Middlesbrough
Substitute Member	Councillor Marian Fairley	Redcar & Cleveland
Substitute Member	Councillor Richard Eglington	Stockton

7.4 7.4 Cabinet is asked to **APPROVE** the appointments to Transport Committee as detailed in 7.3 above.

8. Audit and Governance Committee

8.1 Audit & Governance Committee is the statutory committee which assures sound governance and financial management of the Combined Authority. Members have been appointed from each constituent authority, on the basis of political balance, as required by legislation and detailed in the constitution, plus up to five independent members.

8.2 The Tees Valley Combined Authority Constitution provides that each Constituent Authority shall nominate a Member and Substitute Member from amongst the Members of that authority with current or recent experience of having served on its Audit or Governance committees, and who is not also a Member or Substitute Member of the Combined Authority Cabinet or its Sub- Committees. The Members nominated by the Constituent Authorities shall reflect, so far as reasonably practicable, the balance of political parties for the time being prevailing among members of the Constituent Authorities collectively.

8.3 The nominations for Audit & Governance Committee from the Constituent Authorities are as follows:

Member	Councillor Mandy Porter	Darlington	Labour
Member	Councillor Moss Boddy	Hartlepool	Labour

Member	Councillor Nicky Walker	Middlesbrough	Labour
Member	Councillor Peter Grogan	Redcar & Cleveland	Conservative
Member	Councillor Mohammed Mazi	Stockton	Conservative

Substitute Member	Councillor Andrew Anderson	Darlington	Labour
Substitute Member	Councillor Aaron Roy	Hartlepool	Labour
Substitute Member	Councillor Jill Ewan	Middlesbrough	Labour
Substitute Member	Councillor Paul Salvin	Redcar & Cleveland	Conservative
Substitute Member	Councillor Niall Innes	Stockton	Conservative

8.4 Cabinet is asked to **APPROVE** the appointments to Audit & Governance Committee as detailed in 8.3 above.

8.5 In addition to the appointments above, the Tees Valley Combined Authority Constitution provides that the membership shall include up to four independent members to provide advice in relation to finance and standards matters. Those members are appointed for a fixed term and no action is required from TVCA Cabinet.

9. South Tees Development Corporation Board

9.1 The South Tees Development Corporation is a Mayoral Development Corporation, created by Statutory Instrument, pursuant to the provisions of the Localism Act 2011. The Localism Act 2011 provides that the object of a Mayoral Development Corporation is to secure the regeneration of its area.

9.2 This Board guides and oversees delivery of the key objectives of the South Tees Development Corporation ('STDC') as set out in its Constitution. The Mayor will not stand as Chair, but following a competitive recruitment process overseen by the Mayor, the Mayor has appointed an independent Chair.

9.3 The STDC Constitution previously stated the following, in terms of quoracy:

9.3.1 Para 5.3, '*The quorum shall be one-third of the Voting Members in office, rounded up in the event of an uneven number, to include at least two of the Voting Board Members who are also Cabinet Members of the Combined Authority.*'

9.4 As the Tees Valley Mayor and the Leader of Redcar & Cleveland Borough Council are the only two members of the STDC Board who are also TVCA Cabinet Members, the Mayor's decision to step down from the Board renders the Board inquorate,

which means that it will be unable to meet following today's meeting if a replacement Chair is not appointed.

- 9.5 In order to address the imminent inquiry of the STDC Board, at its meeting on 10 June 2025, the STDC Board approved the following amendment to the STDC Constitution, which removes the requirement for a minimum number of Cabinet Members on the STDC Board. Cabinet should be aware that the legislation for Mayoral Development Corporations require an elected member for the relevant area, in this case Redcar & Cleveland Borough Council, to be a voting Member on the Development Corporation Board:
- 9.6 It is recommended that paragraph 5.3 of the STDC Constitution be amended to remove reference to Board members also being Cabinet members and to read as follows:
- 9.6.1 *'the quorum shall be one-third of the Voting Members in office, rounded up in the event of an uneven number.'*
- 9.7 Paragraph 96 of the Tees Valley Combined Authority Constitution requires any changes to a Development Corporation Constitution to be approved by TVCA Cabinet.
- 9.8 In accordance with 9.7 above, Cabinet is therefore asked to **APPROVE** the amendment to the quorum of the STDC Board, as detailed in paragraph 9.6.1 above.
- 9.9 It is recommended that paragraph 4.1.2 (a) and (b) of the STDC Constitution be amended to remove reference of the Mayor being part of the Membership of the Board and appointing a substitute Member to attend and vote in their absence.
- 9.10 It is recommended that paragraph 4.2 (a) of the STDC Constitution be amended to remove reference to Cabinet appointing Board Members, as this is a Mayoral function to be exercised by the Mayor, see Legal Implications section below for further details, and to read as follows:
- 9.10.1 Voting Board Members, Associate Board Members (who shall jointly be referred to in this Constitution as 'Board Members') the Chair and Vice Chair of the Board (who shall in this Constitution be collectively referred to as 'the Board') shall be appointed by the Tees Valley Mayor.
- 9.10 In accordance with 9.7 above, Cabinet is therefore asked to **APPROVE** the amendment to the appointment of the STDC Board, subject to STDC Board approval at the next Board meeting, as detailed in paragraph 9.10 and 9.10.1 above.

- 9.11 Appointments to the Board are made in accordance with the Localism Act 2011 for a fixed term of no more than four years to align with the term of office of the Tees Valley Mayor.
- 9.12 The Localism Act 2011 provides that in appointing a person to be a member of a Mayoral Development Corporation regard must be given to the desirability of appointing a person who has experience of, and has shown some capacity in, a matter relevant to the carrying-out of the Development Corporation's functions and the member should not have any financial or other interest likely to affect prejudicially the exercise of the person's functions as a member.
- 9.13 The members identified below were appointed at the 2024 Annual General Meeting to serve for a term of 2 years, ending on the Annual General Meeting of the Combined Authority Cabinet in 2026.
- 9.14 Cabinet is asked to **NOTE** the previously approved appointments to the South Tees Development Corporation Board, as detailed below:-

SOUTH TEES DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION BOARD

Independent Member	Allan Armstrong
Independent Member	John Baker
Executive Member	Councillor Alec Brown, Leader of Redcar & Cleveland Borough Council
Independent Member	Carolyn Curr
Independent Member	Jason Faulkner
Independent Member	Lyndsay Hogg
Independent Member	Carole Morgan
Independent Member	David Smith
Substitute for Leader of Redcar & Cleveland BC	Councillor Carrie Richardson
Associate Member	TVCA Chief Executive (currently TBC)
Associate Member	Managing Director, Redcar & Cleveland Borough Council (currently John Sampson)

10 South Tees Site Company Limited (STSC)

- 10.1 Paragraph 11 of the South Tees Development Corporation Constitution provides that the Tees Valley Mayor nominates, for Cabinet approval a non-executive Chair of the Board. It is proposed that Councillor Alec Brown be appointed as Chair of South Tees Site Company Limited.

- 10.2 Cabinet is asked to **APPROVE** the appointment of Councillor Alec Brown as Chair of South Tees Site Company Limited.
- 11 **South Tees Development Corporation – Audit & Governance Committee – Appointment of Chair**
- 11.1 Paragraph 44 of the South Tees Development Corporation Constitution provides that the Tees Valley Mayor nominates, for Cabinet approval an independent member of the South Tees Development Corporation Audit & Governance Committee. Such appointment cannot be an Independent Member who also sits on the South Tees Development Corporation Board.
- 11.2 Mike Sharp was appointed as the Chair of South Tees Development Corporation Audit & Governance Committee at the 2024 Annual General Meeting.
- 11.3 Cabinet is asked to **NOTE** the appointment of Mike Sharp as Chair of South Tees Development Corporation Audit & Governance Committee for the next municipal year.
- 12 **Hartlepool Development Corporation Board**
- 12.1 Hartlepool Development Corporation is responsible for delivering the agreed economic development and regeneration functions at the specified sites within Hartlepool as set out in the Localism Act 2011 and its Constitution.
- 12.2 Presently, the Development Corporation Constitution states:
- appointments to the Board are approved by Cabinet following a proposal put to it by the Mayor.
 - there shall be a minimum of 6 and a maximum of 10 Board Members in total.
 - all Board members will serve for a period of two years or until the Annual General meeting following a Mayoral election but may be reappointed if so, proposed by the Mayor
 - an elected member of Hartlepool Borough Council will be the Vice Chair of the Corporation Board.
- 12.3 While the Development Corporation Constitution states the Mayor is a Voting Board Member, and the Mayor may propose himself as Chair or Vice Chair, the Mayor has decided he will no longer be appointed as a Board Member or the Chair following the recent Government guidance on Mayoral Development Corporations. It is proposed that the Development Corporation's Constitution will be amended to reflect that position, and in accordance with the TVCA Constitution, this amendment is brought to Cabinet for Combined Authority approval. As detailed in Paragraph 12.5 and the legal implications section of this report, the legislative position is that the appointment of members and the Chair of the Development

Corporation Board is a Mayoral power. Therefore, to bring the Constitution in line with the legislative position, an amendment will be required. The Mayor's appointment to the role of Chair is set out in agenda item 5.

- 12.4 To deal with the now erroneous reference to the Tees Valley Combined Authority Mayor being the Chair of the Hartlepool Development Corporation, and the reference to the TVCA Mayor being part of the quorum, it is recommended to amend paragraphs 8, 10, 11, 14, 17 and para 2.1 Appendix II of the Hartlepool Development Corporation Constitution to the following:
- i. Para 8: *'The Chair shall be appointed from any Board members nominated by the Tees Valley Mayor.'*
 - ii. Para 10: *'All Board members will serve for a period of 2 years or until the Annual General Meeting following a Mayoral Election but may be reappointed if so proposed by the Mayor.'*
 - iii. Para 11: *'There shall be a minimum of 6 and a maximum of 10 Board Members in total.'*
 - iv. Para 14: *'The Chair of the Board may resign that appointment by serving notice on the Mayor, without resigning membership of the Board.'*
 - v. Para 17: 'The quorum shall be:

half of the members in office, rounded down in the event that this does not produce a whole number;

Include at least one Member who is an elected Member of Hartlepool Borough Council.'
 - vi. Para 2.1(a): *'confirm the Chair as the person who is to preside at meetings.'*
- 12.5 The HDC Constitution has further been amended at paragraph 7 to reflect the legislative position that the power to appoint HDC Board Members and the Chair is a Mayoral function and unless delegated it can only be exercised by the Mayor. The legislative position is set out in more detail in the Legal Implications section below.
- i. Para 7: *'The Board of the Corporation shall be appointed by the Tees Valley Mayor.'*
- 12.6 Paragraph 96 of the Tees Valley Combined Authority Constitution requires any changes to a Development Corporation Constitution to be approved by TVCA

Cabinet. When HDC Board met on 19 June 2025 they approved the above changes.

12.7 In accordance with 12.5 above, Cabinet is therefore asked to **APPROVE** the amendment to the HDC Constitution, as detailed in paragraph 12.4 (i – v) and 12.5 (i) above.

12.8 The members identified in the table below were appointed at the 2024 Annual General Meeting to serve on the board for a term of 2 years, ending on the Annual General Meeting of the Combined Authority Cabinet in 2026; or

12.8.1 Serve for so long as they hold the role to which they are appointed (where this is relevant and their respective appointment letter), whichever is the shorter

12.9 Associate Members are appointed in their role, and not personally.

HARTLEPOOL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION BOARD

Independent Member	Sarah Bedford
Independent Member	Simon Corbett
Independent Member	Business Board Member (currently Alison Gwynn)
Executive Member	Councillor Brenda Harrison, Leader of Hartlepool Borough Council
Independent Member	Brenda McLeish OBE
Independent Member	Lisa Molloy
Independent Member	Shane Moore
Independent Member	Martin Raby
Independent Member	Cleveland Police & Crime Commissioner (currently Matt Storey)
Substitute for Leader of Hartlepool BC	Councillor Martin Scarborough
Associate Member	TVCA Chief Executive (TBC)
Associate Member	Managing Director, Hartlepool Borough Council (currently Denise McGuckin)
Independent Adviser	Chief Constable of Cleveland Police (Victoria Fuller subject to external ratification)

12.10 Cabinet is asked to **NOTE** the appointments to the Hartlepool Development Corporation Board, as detailed above.

13 Middlesbrough Development Corporation Board

- 13.1 Middlesbrough Development Corporation is responsible for delivering the agreed development and regeneration functions limited to the specified area of land at Middlesbrough.
- 13.2 Presently, the Middlesbrough Development Corporation Constitution states:
- appointments to the Board are approved by Cabinet following a proposal put to it by the Mayor.
 - there shall be a minimum of 6 and a maximum of 10 Board Members in total.
 - all Board members will serve for a period of two years or until the Annual General meeting following a Mayoral election but may be reappointed if so proposed by the Mayor.
 - an elected member of Middlesbrough Council or the Mayor will be the Vice Chair of the Corporation Board.
- 13.3 While the Development Corporation Constitution states the Mayor is a Voting Board Member, and the Mayor may propose himself as Chair or Vice Chair, the Mayor has decided he will no longer be appointed as a Board Member or the Chair following the recent Government guidance on Mayoral Development Corporations. It is proposed that the Development Corporation's Constitution will be amended to reflect that position and, in accordance with the TVCA Constitution, this amendment is brought to Cabinet for Combined Authority approval. As detailed in paragraph 13.5 and the legal implications section of this report, the legislative position is that the appointment of members and the Chair to the Development Corporation Board is a Mayoral power. Therefore, to bring the Constitution in line with the legislative position, an amendment will be required. The Mayor's appointment to the role of Chair is set out in agenda item 5.
- 13.4 To deal with the now erroneous reference to the Tees Valley Mayor being the Chair of the Middlesbrough Development Corporation, and the reference to the TVCA Mayor being part of the quorum, it is recommended to amend paragraphs 9, 11, 12, 17 and 2.1(a) of Appendix I of the Middlesbrough Development Corporation Constitution to the following:
- i. Para 9: *'The Chair shall be any Board members nominated by the Tees Valley Mayor.'*
 - ii. Para 11: *'All Board members will serve for a period of 2 years or until the Annual General Meeting following a Mayoral Election but may be reappointed if so proposed by the Mayor.'*
 - iii. Para 12: *'There shall be a minimum of 6 and a maximum of 10 Board Members in total.'*

iv. Para 17: ‘The quorum shall be:

half of the members in office, rounded down in the event that this does not produce a whole number;

Include at least one Member who is an elected Member of Middlesbrough Council or the Middlesbrough Council Mayor, whichever is on the board.’

v. Para 2.1(a): ‘confirm the Chair as the person who is to preside at meetings;’

13.5 The MDC Constitution has further been amended at paragraph 8 to reflect the legislative position that the power to appoint MDC Board Members and the Chair is a Mayoral function and unless delegated it can only be exercised by the Mayor. The legislative position is set out in more detail the Legal Implications section below.

i. Para 8: ‘The Board of the Corporation shall be appointed by the TVCA Mayor.’

13.6 Paragraph 96 of the Tees Valley Combined Authority Constitution requires any changes to a Development Corporation Constitution to be approved by TVCA Cabinet. When MDC Board met on 19 June 2025 they approved the above changes.

13.7 In accordance with 13.5 above, Cabinet is therefore asked to **APPROVE** the amendment to the MDC Constitution, as detailed in paragraph 13.4 (i – v) and 13.5 (i) above.

13.8 The members identified below were appointed at the 2024 Annual General Meeting to serve on the board for a term of 2 years, ending on the Annual General Meeting of the Combined Authority Cabinet in 2026; or

13.8.1 Serve for so long as they hold the role to which they are appointed (where this is relevant and their respective appointment letter), whichever is the shorter

13.9 Associate Members are appointed in their role, and not personally.

MIDDLESBROUGH DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION BOARD

Independent Member	Paul Bell
Mayor of Middlesbrough	Chris Cooke

Independent Member	Tony Grainge
Independent Member	Riaz Hameed
Independent Member	Father Glyn Holland
Tees Valley Business Board Member	Imran Amwar
Independent Member	Martin Raby
Independent Member	Stephanie Spensley
Independent Member	Cleveland Police & Crime Commissioner (currently Matt Storey)
Substitute for Mayor of Middlesbrough	Councillor Theo Furness
Associate Member	TVCA Chief Executive
Associate Member	Managing Director, Middlesbrough Council (currently Erik Scollay)
Independent Adviser	Chief Constable of Cleveland Police (Victoria Fuller subject ratification)

13.10 Cabinet is asked to **NOTE** the appointments to the Middlesbrough Development Corporation Board, as detailed.

14 Teesside Freeport Board

- 14.1 This Board makes recommendations to Cabinet on Freeport strategy and policies, reviews Freeport services, ensures compliance with Freeport legislation and co-ordinates the interests of landowners and other key stakeholders.
- 14.2 The Tees Valley Combined Authority Constitution provides that the Tees Valley Mayor will chair the Board, with the other members appointed by Cabinet on the recommendation of the Mayor.
- 14.3 Cabinet is asked to **NOTE** the members of the Freeport Board and **APPROVE** the proposed appointments of their nominated substitutes as detailed in Confidential Appendix 1

15 Chair of Overview & Scrutiny Committee and TVCA Audit & Governance Committee

- 15.1 The Chair and Vice Chair of the Combined Authority Overview and Scrutiny Committee, the Chair and Vice Chair of the Audit and Governance Committee and the Vice Chair of the Transport Committee will be brought forward to a future Cabinet meeting, once nominations have been received and agreed following their next respective meetings.

16 Other non-statutory/advisory groups:

- 16.1 There are currently a number of non-statutory/advisory groups which feed into the overall governance processes for TVCA. As part of the listening workshops linked to the Best Value Notice and the Organisational Improvement Plan, the decision making and wider governance processes for TVCA are being reviewed. The below paragraphs set out the current structure and the current membership, for Cabinet to note.
- 16.2 **Education, Employment and Skills Advisory Group** – This group brings together partners to provide strategic oversight on policies improving educational outcomes, enhancing skills and helping people into work.
- 16.3 **UKSPF Local Partnership Group** – This group supports TVCA to develop a UKSPF Investment Plan. It provides advice on strategic fit and deliverability for UKSPF Investment Proposals and forms part of the TVCA formal governance and accountability arrangements for the operation of UKSPF in the Tees Valley.
- 16.4 **Transport Advisory Group** – This group brings together officers and partners with responsibilities for the Tees Valley’s transport infrastructure.
- 16.5 **Creative Place Advisory Group** comprises independent sector representatives from the region's cultural industries and visitor economy sectors, along with senior officers from the five local authorities, to advise the Combined Authority on its approach to supporting growth in the creative and visitor economies.
- 16.6 Cabinet is asked to **NOTE** the membership of the non-statutory/advisory groups as detailed above and listed below.

16.7 Education, Employment and Skills Advisory Group

Councillor Lisa Evans	Chair, Combined Authority Cabinet Member
Chris Renahan	Stockton Borough Council
Councillor Phillipa Storey	Middlesbrough Council
Councillor Lynn Pallister	Redcar & Cleveland Council
Councillor Chris McEwan	Darlington Borough Council
Councillor Richard Eglington	Stockton Borough Council
Councillor Pamela Hargreaves	Hartlepool Borough Council
Nicole Bewley	Association of Employment and Learning Providers
Reshma Begum	Federation of Small Businesses (Business Representative)
Rachel Anderson	North East Chamber of Commerce (Business Representative)
Lucy Owens	Catalyst

Peter Neal	RCVDA (Voluntary and Community Sector Representative)
Tania Cooper	TVBB Skills Representative
Helen Williamson	DfE
David Inness & Jackie McNab	Department for Work & Pensions
TBC	Teesside University Rep
Holly Philips	Department of Business and Trade
Zoe Lewis	FE College Representative
Mike Greene	Managing Director Stockton Borough Council
Dan Jackson	North East & North Cumbria Integrated Care Board

UKSPF Local Partnership Group

Erik Scollay (Chair)	Chief Executive, Middlesbrough Council
Andrew Carter	Redcar & Cleveland Borough Council
Trevor Watson	Darlington Borough Council
Chris Renahan	Stockton Borough Council
TBC	Hartlepool Borough Council & Local Resilience Forum
Grant Glendinning	Further Education (Chair of FE+ Group)
Lynsey Robinson	Teesside University
Timothy Crawshaw	Environmental Representative (Tees Valley Nature Partnership – Chair)
Lucy Owens	Catalyst
Sarah Bowman-Abouna	Public Health (Director of Public Health Representation)
Lisa Oldroyd	Police – (CX of Cleveland PCC)
Dawn Rodgers	DWP
Jayne Dooley	Department for Education (Head of North East & Tees Valley Territorial Team)
Jonathan Gilroy	DBT - Area Team
TBC	Tees Valley Business Board
Sarah Walker	Interim Director Business Solutions at TVCA

Transport Advisory Group

Chair	Dave Winstanley	Darlington Borough Council
Vice Chair	Craig Cowley	Middlesbrough Council
Officer	Anthony Hewitt	Darlington Borough Council
Officer	Kieran Bostock	Hartlepool Borough Council
Officer	Andy Corcoran	Stockton Borough Council
Officer	Rosstam Asadi	Redcar & Cleveland Borough Council
Officer	Alan Weston	TVCA

Creative Place Advisory Group

Cabinet portfolio holder/Alison Gwynn – Tees Valley Business Board	Chair
---	-------

Gemma Ptak	Hartlepool Borough Council
Gaye Kirby	Middlesbrough Council
Chris Moon	Redcar & Cleveland Borough Council
Mike Crawshaw	Darlington Borough Council
Tara Connor	Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council
Alex Ferris	Theatre
Henry Carden	Music
Liam Slevin	Visual Arts
Laura Sillers	Higher Education
Ben Dickenson	TVCEP
Ella Brewster	Tees Valley New Creatives
Jo Ager	Venues
Dominic Somers	Festivals
Lou Tonner	Screen and Commercial Creative Industries
Karen Parmely	The Freelancer Network

17 The Business Board

- 17.1 The Tees Valley Business Board represents the voice of local business and informs the work of the Combined Authority. Members of the Tees Valley Business Board work alongside TVCA officers and are represented on relevant Advisory Groups. The term of office for current members of the Tees Valley Business Board is two years commencing in October 2023, extendable by one further term of two years, subject to Cabinet approval. Cabinet approved the membership of the Business Board at its meeting in September 2023.
- 17.2 On 5 June 2025, members of the Business Board were consulted to determine if they would seek to engage the term extension. Of 10 applicable members, 3 have confirmed they wish to step away from the Board. The sitting Chair of the Board, having completed two terms as Chair, will also step down on 27 June 2025. It is proposed that an external recruitment process for a new Chair and additional Board members is undertaken. The proposed new Chair and Board members will be reported to Cabinet in September 2025 for approval. In the interim period, Deputy Chair will act as Chair.
- 17.3 The role of the Business Board, how it fits within the wider governance structure of TVCA, and its skills and sector representation will be reviewed concurrently to ensure alignment with the Local Growth Plan. This will form part of the report to Cabinet in September 2025. Furthermore, it is proposed that any changes to the Terms of Reference or the relationship of the Business Board with the wider TVCA governance structure are brought back to Cabinet in September for consideration.

17.4 The members of the Board who are stepping down, from 27 June 2025, are:

Member:	Role:
Siobhan McArdle	Chair
Katrina Morley	Member
Kevin O'Hare	Member
Mike Racz	Member

18 Appointments to External Bodies

18.6 The appointment schedule also proposes Tees Valley representation on a small number of external bodies.

TRANSPORT FOR THE NORTH

Transport and Infrastructure Portfolio Holder	TBC
---	-----

Business Board Member	TBC
Business Board Substitute Member	TBC

Officer	TVCA Chief Executive
Substitute Officer	TVCA Director of Infrastructure

NORTHERN POWERHOUSE INVESTMENT FUND BOARD

Business Board Member	TBC
Business Board Substitute Member	TBC

EAST COAST MAINLINE AUTHORITIES GROUP

Transport and Infrastructure Portfolio Holder	TBC
---	-----

18.7 Cabinet is asked to **NOTE** these appointments as detailed above.

19 Officer Groups

19.6 The Combined Authority supports a range of officer groups which ensure co-ordination between the authority and its constituent councils. The arrangements for officer coordination are continually reviewed to ensure that effective

communication and close partnership arrangements are maintained between officers on all aspects of the Combined Authority's responsibilities.

19.7 Cabinet is asked to **NOTE** these arrangements.

20 Members Allowances Scheme

20.1 Members' travel and subsistence allowances for the year 2025-26 is detailed in **Appendix 2**. The Allowances Scheme has been updated to allow for an allowance to be paid to the newly appointed Chairs of the South Tees, Middlesbrough, and Hartlepool Development Corporations. Cabinet approval for the Chair allowance is set out in agenda item 5. Members expenses has been updated to allow for mileage expenses to be claimed within the Tees Valley.

21. TVCA Constitution

- 21.1 Following the decision of the Tees Valley Mayor to step down as Chair of the Mayoral Development Corporations, no Combined Authority constitutional amendments are required.
- 21.2 The Combined Authority is asked to **APPROVE** the Constitution documents for the new municipal year. Attached as **Appendix 3** is a table which sets out all proposed minor amendments to the Constitution; these are for updating or clarification purposes, to correct typographical errors or to include references to new legislation.
- 21.3 The Public Participation Protocol, Appendix VII of the Constitution has been updated following approval by Cabinet on 28 March 2025.
- 21.4 The Tees Valley Combined Authority Constitution has further been amended at Part 2, paragraphs 2.1 (i) – (n), and 27.1 (b) – (d) to reflect the legislative position that the power to appoint Development Corporation Board Members and the Chair is a Mayoral function and unless delegated it can only be exercised by the Mayor. The legislative position is set out in more detail in the Legal Implications section below.
- 21.5 A full review of the Constitution will be undertaken collaboratively with the constituent local authorities, aligned to the organisational improvement plan and reported to a future Cabinet for approval.
- 21.6 Cabinet is asked to **APPROVE** the Tees Valley Combined Authority Constitution at **Appendix 8**.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 22 Support for the governance of the Tees Valley Combined Authority is provided from within the Authority's core budget, as agreed by Cabinet through the annual budget process, and funded through resources devolved from central government.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 23 The report relates to the Constitution of the Combined Authority which sets out the appropriate statutory framework. The Constitution came into effect on 8th May 2017 and is legally binding.
- 24 The Localism Act 2011 ('the Act'), Schedule 21, provides the legal framework for the membership and remuneration for Mayoral Development Corporations. This legislation needs to be read in conjunction with The Tees Valley Combined Authority (Functions) Order 2017 ('the Order'), Schedule 1, which amends the wording of the Act.
- 25 The Act as amended by the Order states:
- 25.1 A Mayoral development corporation ("MDC") is to consist of such number of members (being not less than six) as the Combined Authority may from time to time appoint.
- 25.2 The Combined Authority must appoint at least one elected member from the Local Authority area the MDC sits in
- 25.3 The Combined Authority must appoint one of the members of an MDC to chair the MDC.
- 25.4 When appointing a member of an MDC, including a Chair, the Combined Authority must have regard to the desirability of appointing a person who has experience of, and has shown some capacity in, a matter relevant to the carrying-out of the MDC's functions, and must be satisfied that the person will have no financial or other interest likely to affect prejudicially the exercise of the person's functions as member.
- 25.5 The Combined Authority may require any person whom they propose to appoint as a member to provide information to ensure they do not have any prejudicial financial interest.
- 26 In respect of remuneration the Act as modified by the Order states as follows:

- 26.1 An MDC may pay remuneration, travelling expenses and other allowances, and sums in respect of pensions and gratuities. Remuneration and/or pension payments cannot be made to any elected member of the Tees Valley area, unless they act as the chair in which case they can be remunerated for that role.
- 26.2 The Combined Authority determines rates and eligibility criteria in respect of the above.
- 27 S.107D(2) Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009 and s.5(1) states that the functions above conferred to the Combined Authority are general functions exercisable by the Mayor.
- 28 Therefore, the appointment of Board Members to the Development Corporations, the appointment of the Development Corporations Chairs, and the ability to determine rates and eligibility criteria for remuneration are functions that only the Mayor can exercise. The Mayor can exercise these functions personally or delegate them to the Deputy Mayor or an Officer of the Combined Authority.

RISK ASSESSMENT

- 29 This report is categorised as low to medium risk. Existing management systems and daily routine activities are sufficient to control and reduce risk.

CONSULTATION AND COMMUNICATION

- 30 The five Constituent Local Authority Leaders have been appropriately consulted on appointments, and nominations have been made through each council. The Mayor has also been consulted on these proposals.

Name of Contact Officer: Sally Henry
Post Title: Governance Officer
Telephone Number: 01325 792600
Email Address: sally.henry@teesvalley-ca.gov.uk