



Tees Valley Combined Authority Cabinet Decision Record

Cabinet Meeting Date:
25 July 2025

Decision Details

Appointment of Interim Group Director of Finance & Resources and Interim Monitoring Officer

Decision Status:	Recommendation Approved
Is Key decision:	No
Is subject to call in:	No
Publication Date:	25/07/2025
Date of Decision:	25/07/2025
Decided at Meeting of:	Cabinet

Purpose:

To receive a report from the Chief Executive seeking approval to appoint an interim Group Director of Finance & Resources and an interim Monitoring Officer for up to twelve months following the departure of the previous postholders.

Cabinet will also be invited to note the continuation of the interim arrangements for the Director of Business Solutions and the Director of Infrastructure.

Decision:

Resolved that Cabinet;

- i. Approve the appointment of Jo Moore as Interim Group Director of Finance & Resources for a period of up to twelve months.
- ii. Approve the appointment of Jodie Townsend as Interim Monitoring Officer for a period of up to twelve months.
- iii. Note the continuation of Sarah Walker as Interim Director of Business.
- iv. Note the continuation of Julie Hurley as Interim Director of Infrastructure.
- v. Note that the additional cost of £204K for these interim appointments (plus agency fees), for up to twelve months, will be funded by delivering a saving on the expenditure on external legal/governance advice.

Alternative options considered:

Option 1 – Designate internal officers as the Group Director of Finance & Resources and Monitoring Officer. This option is not recommended as there are no internal candidates who currently have sufficient experience at this level in dealing with the challenges facing the organisation. The challenges facing the authority necessitate experienced candidates who have operated in these roles previously.



Option 2 - Designate constituent Local Authority officers as the Group Director of Finance & Resources and Monitoring Officer. This option was not pursued, as whilst the constituent Local Authorities have officers with the requisite experience and skillset, it is not felt that they would have the capacity to jointly undertake these roles on behalf of the Combined Authority and their respective authorities. It is felt that statutory officers focussing solely on TVCA business are required given the challenges facing the authority.

Option 3 - Appoint interims on a lower day rate. Other interim candidates were interviewed who had a lower day rate (circa £1,000 per day). However, they were not felt to have the requisite skillset, experience or organisational fit considering the challenges facing the organisation. It is therefore felt that this would be a sub-optimal option and would not give the organisation the best possible chance of effectively delivering the Organisational Improvement Plan.

Accompanying Documents:

[TVCA-Cabinet-Agenda-Papers-25-July-2025.pdf](#)

Declarations of Interest:

Member:	Declaration
Mayor Ben Houchen (Chairperson)	No declarations made.
Councillor Lisa Evans	No declarations made.
Councillor Brenda Harrison	No declarations made.
Councillor Alec Brown	No declarations made.
Mayor Chris Cooke	No declarations made.

Contact Officer for Decision:

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