

Question:		Answer:
Item 5. Appointment of Interim Monitoring Officer and update on recruitment process for permanent Chief Legal & Monitoring Officer and Finance & Resources Director		
1.	Why do you need two people doing one job?	We do not have 2 people fulfilling the Monitoring Officer role. The report explains the arrangements.
2.	How can you appoint someone under the current constitution when it's currently going under a 'comprehensive review' (by the person who is leaving the post) as it's not fully compliant with legal and public governance frameworks?	The current Constitution is legally compliant. The Constitution will be subject to a comprehensive review as part of the Organisational Improvement Plan and any amendments will be subject to a decision by Cabinet.
3.	<p>Cabinet is asked to approve the appointment of an Interim Monitoring Officer following the departure of the previous postholder, Jodie Townsend. In doing so, alternative arrangements — including utilising Monitoring Officers from constituent authorities — were discounted because the role requires a dedicated and exclusive focus on the work of the Tees Valley Combined Authority (TVCA). Against that stated requirement, it is a matter of record that during his tenure the previous postholder simultaneously undertook additional part-time roles, including:</p> <p>1. How many days in total did Jodie Townsend work for TVCA during his period of appointment?</p> <p>2. At the agreed day rate of £1350 what was the total cost to TVCA?</p> <p>3. How did Cabinet assure itself at the time that the Monitoring Officer role was being fulfilled with the</p>	We have knowledge that the former MO held other positions and this question is venturing into personal data relating to a former employee.

	required level of focus and commitment, given the concurrent external roles and periods of absence?	
Item 6: Appointment of New Chair - Hartlepool Development Corporation		
4.	<p>“The Mayor has concluded Mr. Mark Robinson’s term as Chair of Hartlepool Development”</p> <p>Why is it important now that the HDC Chair lives locally, when it wasn’t at the time that Mark Robinson was recruited only 4 months ago?</p>	This matter is fully explained within the report which was presented to Cabinet. The report is in the public domain.
Item 7: Draft Budget 2026/27 & Revised Medium Term Financial Plan		
5.	<p>Re Teesside International Airport Limited (TIAL):</p> <p>“However, a corresponding bad debt provision expenditure budget has been included to offset the same amount of interest receivable income due from TIAL.”</p> <p>Why hasn’t a portion of the TIAL loans been written off as a bad debt?</p>	The financial accounts for 2023/24 and 2024/25 have not been concluded and assessment of the recoverability of the TIAL of loans is being considered as part of that process.
6	<p>“The provision of any financial support to a Mayoral Development Corporation would be a Cabinet decision. This will be a consideration in relation to the Hartlepool Development Corporation and will be discussed further with Cabinet”</p> <p>What is the amount of the financial support being considered for HDC?</p>	The figure is not currently available and its been worked through as part of budget setting.



Public Questions for Cabinet on 30th January 2026