



Tees Valley Combined Authority Cabinet Decision Record

Cabinet Meeting Date:

24 April 2026

Decision Details

Local Growth Plan Update and Local Growth Fund Priority Allocation

Decision Status:	Recommendation Approved
Is Key decision:	Yes
Call in deadline:	Midnight on 05/05/2026
Decision in effect from:	06/05/2026
Publication Date:	27/04/2026
Date of Decision:	24/04/2026
Decided at Meeting of:	Cabinet

Purpose:

Cabinet were provided with an update on the Local Growth Plan and asked to note progress, next steps and timescales. They were advised that the full Plan will be brought back to a future meeting for adoption.

Cabinet were also provided an update on the Tees Valley Investment Pipeline and asked to note progress, next steps and timescales. They were also advised that the Pipeline will be brought back to a future meeting for adoption.

Cabinet was also provided an update on the development of a proposal for the Local Growth Fund and their approval was sought to allocate funds to support Business Growth.

Decision:

RESOLVED that Cabinet:-

- **NOTED** the plan and timeline for the Tees Valley Local Growth Plan;
- **NOTED** the progress in the development of a Tees Valley Investment Pipeline;
- **APPROVED** the prioritisation of the £34m Local Growth Fund to support Business Growth.
- **APPROVED** delegation to complete and submit the Local Growth Fund Investment Plan and Outcomes Framework to MHCLG to the TVCA Director of Business Solutions in consultation with the TVCA Statutory Officers, the Tees Valley Mayor and Portfolio Holder.
- **NOTED** that all activity and financial commitments will be subject to proportionate Business Cases in line with the Combined Authority's Assurance Framework and these will be reported to Cabinet for approval in June 2026.



Alternative options considered:

No other alternative options were presented.

Accompanying Documents:

TVCA Cabinet agenda and papers

Declarations of Interest:

Member:	Declaration
Mayor Ben Houchen (Chairperson)	No declarations made.
Councillor Lisa Evans	No declarations made.
Councillor Steve Harker	No declarations made.
Councillor Pamela Hargreaves	No declarations made.
Councillor Alec Brown	No declarations made.
Mayor Chris Cooke	No declarations made.

Contact Officer for Decision:

Name of Contact Officer: Sarah Walker

Post Title: Director of Business Solutions

Email Address: sarah.walker@teesvalley-ca.gov.uk

Decision Details

Skills programme – approval of adult skills grant funded provider allocations & approval of the process for awarding the post-16 capital skills allocations to providers.

Decision Status:	Recommendation Approved
Is Key decision:	Yes
Call in deadline:	Midnight on 05/05/2026
Decision in effect from:	06/05/2026
Publication Date:	27/04/2026
Date of Decision:	24/04/2026
Decided at Meeting of:	Cabinet

Purpose:

Cabinet were asked for their approval for the Adult Skills Fund grant allocations and Post-16 Capital and CTEC capital arrangements. Cabinet were also provided an update on the adult skills procurement process and the development of LSIP 2.

Decision:

Resolved that Cabinet;

- A. **APPROVED** the recommended allocations for the Grant Funded Providers for the 2026/27-2028/29 academic years, as set out in **Appendix 1** of the report.
- B. **APPROVED** the recommended allocations for the Post 16 Capacity Capital funding and Construction Technical Excellence College (CTEC) Capital funding as set out in **Appendix 2 and 3** of the report.
- C. **DELEGATED** the process for allocating the remainder of the CTEC (Project Based) capital funding from DfE in the 2026/27 financial year to the Combined Authority Chief Executive in consultation with the Combined Authority Monitoring Officer and the Section 73 Officer), the Tees Valley Mayor and Portfolio lead.
- D. **NOTED** the update on the Local Skills Improvement Plan (2026-29).

Alternative options considered:

No other alternative options were presented.

Accompanying Documents:

TVCA Cabinet agenda and papers

Declarations of Interest:

Anything is possible



Member:	Declaration
Mayor Ben Houchen (Chairperson)	No declarations made.
Councillor Lisa Evans	Declared a non pecuniary interest
Councillor Steve Harker	Declared a non pecuniary interest
Councillor Pamela Hargreaves	Declared a non pecuniary interest
Councillor Alec Brown	Declared a non pecuniary interest
Mayor Chris Cooke	Declared a non pecuniary interest.

Contact Officer for Decision:

Name of Contact Officer: Sarah Walker

Post Title: Director of Business Solutions

Email Address: sarah.walker@teesvalley-ca.gov.uk

Decision Details

YOUTH GUARANTEE TRAILBLAZER YEAR 2 APPROVAL

Decision Status:	Recommendation Approved
Is Key decision:	Yes
Call in deadline:	Midnight on 05/05/2026
Decision in effect from:	06/05/2026
Publication Date:	27/04/2026
Date of Decision:	24/04/2026
Decided at Meeting of:	Cabinet

Purpose:

Cabinet was presented with a report from the Director of Business Solutions which advised that the Youth Guarantee Trailblazer was originally launched as a one-year pilot. The Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) has now confirmed funding for a second year to build on the insights and learning from Year 1. It is a nationally funded DWP initiative being delivered locally by Mayoral Combined Authorities to test innovative, place-based approaches to supporting young people into employment, education and training.

The report asked Cabinet for a decision for Tees Valley Combined Authority to continue as accountable body for the Youth Guarantee Trailblazer for Year 2 of the programme (Apr 26 – Mar 27). The Year 2 delivery has been accepted by DWP, and funding has been confirmed by a Grant Funding Agreement received 24 March 2026.

Decision:

Resolved that Cabinet;

- A. **APPROVED** Year 2 of the Youth Guarantee Trailblazer and accept £5m from the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) into the Investment Plan for the period April 2026 – March 2027.
- B. **APPROVED** continuation of the Year 1 delivery model with Stockton Borough Council acting as Programme Manager on behalf of the Combined Authority and all five Local Authorities delivering locally, supported by enhanced programme management support from TVCA
- C. **DELEGATED** authority to the TVCA Chief Executive, in consultation with the Section 73 Officer and Monitoring Officer, to approve any future extension of the Youth Guarantee Trailblazer Pilot programme, subject to confirmation of funding from DWP.
- D. **NOTED** The advanced delegated decision that was taken in March 2026 to mitigate the risk of any pause in programme delivery.



Alternative options considered:

No other alternative options were presented.

Accompanying Documents:

TVCA Cabinet agenda and papers

Declarations of Interest:

Member:	Declaration
Mayor Ben Houchen (Chairperson)	No declarations made.
Councillor Lisa Evans	No declarations made.
Councillor Steve Harker	No declarations made.
Councillor Pamela Hargreaves	No declarations made.
Councillor Alec Brown	No declarations made.
Mayor Chris Cooke	No declarations made.

Contact Officer for Decision:

Name of Contact Officer: Sarah Walker

Post Title: Director of Business Solutions

Email Address: sarah.walker@teesvalley-ca.gov.uk