

Cabinet

4 December 2018

Meeting held: Committee Room, Civic Centre, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE1 8QH

Draft Minutes

Present:

Councillor P Jackson, Chair for the duration of agenda items 1-4
Mayor N Redfearn (part of meeting), Chair from agenda item 5 onwards
Councillors W Daley, N Forbes, P Jackson, J McCarty and B Pickard

9 APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR FOR THE FIRST PART OF THE MEETING

RESOLVED – Councillor Peter Jackson be appointed as Chair for the first part of the meeting, for the duration of the consideration of agenda items 1 – 4.

10 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence received. Mayor Norma Redfearn was not present at the meeting until the Cabinet's decision on agenda item 4 (Appointment of Interim Mayor).

11 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

Mayor Norma Redfearn was not present at the meeting until after the consideration of agenda item 4 (Appointment of Interim Mayor).

12 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 8 November 2018 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

13 APPOINTMENT OF INTERIM MAYOR

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

The Cabinet considered the report which recommended appointment of Mayor Norma Redfearn CBE as Interim Mayor.

RESOLVED – That:

- i. Mayor Norma Redfearn CBE be appointed as Interim Mayor;
- ii. Councillor Peter Earley be appointed to the Cabinet as one of North Tyneside Council's members; and
- iii. the unsuccessful candidate be written to with thanks for their interest.

Following the Cabinet's decision on the appointment of Interim Mayor, Mayor Norma Redfearn joined the meeting.

Upon taking the Chair, Mayor Norma Redfearn thanked everyone for their support. She spoke about the honour of being appointed the Interim Mayor of the North of Tyne Combined Authority.

14 **INVESTMENT FUND - LOCAL FULL FIBRE NETWORK**

Submitted: A report of the Head of Paid Service (previously circulated and copy attached to Official Minutes).

The Cabinet considered the report which sought endorsement for a bid to central government for the Local Full Fibre Network (LFFN) Challenge Fund Wave 3, an opportunity to significantly improve digital infrastructure across Newcastle, North Tyneside and Northumberland. Members welcomed this development and the opportunity it presented for the North of Tyne area.

RESOLVED – That:

- i. the Cabinet endorsed continued negotiations with the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) with the aim of drawing in the Local Full Fibre Network (LFFN) Challenge funding from central government to deliver enhanced fibre connection to public buildings and, therefore, lever significant further investment from the private sector to improve connectivity to businesses and residents; and
- ii. an in-principle allocation of up to £100k investment from the Business Case Development Fund to support the preparation of a robust business case to DCMS, subject to a subsequent application, with the aim of drawing down up to £12M additional central government funding into our region, be approved.

15 **INCLUSIVE ECONOMY POLICY STATEMENT**

Submitted: A report of the Head of Paid Service (previously circulated and copy attached to Official Minutes).

The Cabinet considered the report which presented the final draft of the Combined Authority's Inclusive Economy Policy Statement for approval, together with a suggestion to hold an open stakeholder event to showcase the Policy Statement. In discussion, Members commented on the significance of the Inclusive Economy agenda.

RESOLVED – That:

- i. the final version of the Inclusive Economy Policy Statement as attached at Appendix 1 of the report be approved; and
- ii. an open stakeholder event should be held in January to showcase the contents of the Policy Statement.

16 **ESTABLISHING THE INCLUSIVE ECONOMY BOARD**

Submitted: A report of the Head of Paid Service (previously circulated and copy attached to Official Minutes).

The Cabinet considered the report which sought approval for the proposed broad function and terms of reference for the Inclusive Economy Board, approach to its membership and approach to the appointment of the Board's Co-Chair.

RESOLVED – That:

- i. the draft terms of reference for the proposed Inclusive Economy Board as outlined at Appendix 2 of the report be approved;
- ii. the principle of appointing an external Co-Chair against the proposed criteria defined in paragraph 1.6 of the report be approved;
- iii. the proposed balance outlined in paragraph 1.8 of the report as the basis for establishing the membership of the Board be agreed; and
- iv. the Interim Monitoring Officer would incorporate the arrangements relating to the Board in the Authority's Constitution.

17 **2018/2019 BUDGET**

Submitted: A report of the Interim Section 73 Officer (previously circulated and copy attached to Official Minutes).

The Cabinet considered the report which sought approval of the Combined Authority's proposed budget for 2018/19.

In discussion, Members welcomed the Investment Fund and being able to start to develop proposals for delivery through the fund. Members agreed to add the

economic opportunities associated with the Northumberland, North Tyneside and Newcastle rail line to the list of projects in paragraph 1.3 of the report for which Cabinet would expect to provide early business case development funding.

RESOLVED – That:

- i. the Corporate Budget for 2018/19 as summarised in Table 1 in the report be agreed;
- ii. the Investment Plan budget for 2018/19 as summarised in Table 2 in the report, be agreed; and
- iii. the economic opportunities associated with the Northumberland, North Tyneside and Newcastle rail line be added to the list of projects in paragraph 1.3 of the report for which Cabinet would expect to provide early business case development funding.

18 GOVERNANCE UPDATE

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

The Cabinet considered the report which sought approval to several proposals to develop the constitutional arrangements of the Combined Authority and the Joint Transport Committee, as well as approval to delegating certain transport functions to the Joint Transport Committee.

Members highlighted the importance of an effective and independent Overview and Scrutiny Committee, and the Cabinet's preferred approach to invite the Committee to appoint its own Chair and Vice-Chair.

RESOLVED – That:

- i. the North East Local Enterprise Partnership's nominations of a member and a substitute member for the NTCA Cabinet would be received at a future meeting;
- ii. the decision to appoint a Chair and Vice-Chair of the NTCA Overview and Scrutiny Committee be delegated to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee;
- iii. the Standing Orders of the Joint Transport Committee set out at Appendix 1 of the report be approved, and the functions set out at Appendix 2 of the report be delegated to the Joint Transport Committee; and
- iv. the Independent Remuneration Panel of North Tyneside Council be requested to make a recommendation as to the allowance that should be payable to the Elected Mayor.

19 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, 5 February 2019 at 2pm.