

Cabinet (Annual Meeting)

7 June 2022

(2.07 - 2.58 pm)

Meeting held: Committee Room, North Tyneside Council, Quadrant, The Silverlink North, Cobalt Business Park, North Tyneside, NE27 0BY

Minutes

Present:

Chair: Mayor J Driscoll

Councillors A Hay, C Johnson, N Kemp, G Sanderson and R Wearmouth, Mayor N Redfearn and Ms L Winskell.

Also: Mr R Fry (Observer)

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

An apology for absence was received from Councillor K Kilgour.

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

3 ANY ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE MAYOR AND/OR THE MANAGING DIRECTOR

The Mayor opened the meeting and introductions were made. A particular welcome was extended to the new members: Councillors N Kemp and A Hay.

4 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 22 March 2022 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

5 **CABINET MEMBERSHIP, APPOINTMENTS TO COMMITTEES AND OTHER BODIES AND PROGRAMME OF MEETINGS**

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

The Cabinet considered the report, which invited it to note its membership and confirm the proposed appointments to the NTCA committees and other bodies, for the municipal year 2022-2023.

RESOLVED – That, for the purpose of the municipal year 2022-2023:

- i. the Cabinet membership set out at Appendix 1(a) of the report be noted; and the Cabinet noted that the Mayor had appointed Mayor Norma Redfearn as Deputy Mayor;
- ii. the allocation of Cabinet portfolios set out at Appendix 1(b) of the report be noted; and the schedule of meetings for the municipal year 2022/23 set out at Appendix 2 of the report be noted;
- iii. the membership of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, the Audit and Standards Committee, the Housing and Land Board and the Inclusive Economy Board as set out in Appendix 3 of the report be agreed;
- iv. the appointment of Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee be delegated to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee;
- v. the appointment of members and substitute members to the Joint Transport Committee and its Tyne and Wear Sub-committee as set out in paragraphs 1.5.1 and 1.5.2 of the report be agreed;
- vi. the appointment of members and substitute members to the board of Transport for the North (TfN) and TfN's Overview and Scrutiny Committee as set out in paragraphs 1.6.1 and 1.6.2 of the report be agreed;
- vii. the appointment of the NTCA members to the North East Local Enterprise Partnership boards and panels as set out in in paragraph 1.7.1 of the report be agreed;
- viii. Mr Robin Fry be appointed as Mayoral Ambassador for the Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise (VCSE) sector for the municipal year 2022/23 as set out in paragraph 1.8 of the report;
- ix. the creation of the NTCA Strategic Partnership Group be agreed; and delegated to the Managing Director, in consultation with the Mayor, the final agreement of its terms of reference and membership as set out in paragraph 1.9 of the report.

6 NTCA CORPORATE PLAN

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

The Cabinet considered the NTCA's updated Corporate Plan for the municipal year 2022-2023 municipal year, which built on the progress made against the priorities set out in the earlier issue of the Plan. The Mayor introduced the report.

A short video was played at the meeting to illustrate the breadth of the NTCA activities.

The Managing Director delivered a presentation, providing an overview of the updated Corporate Plan and outlining ambitions and delivery priorities within the portfolios and cross-cutting themes.

The Cabinet welcomed the report. The Cabinet welcomed the joined-up approach to the ambitions and congratulated the Combined Authority for its achievements to date, which had been enabled by the creation and work of the Combined Authority.

Thanks were offered to teams across the North of Tyne area, including in constituent local authorities and in partner organisations, in particular the North East Local Enterprise Partnership and also the Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise sector for their work and support.

Ms L Winskell of the North East Local Enterprise Partnership commended the strong collaboration between the partners on joint targets; she thanked the Combined Authority for its support.

Mr R Fry welcomed the involvement of the Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise sector into the Combined Authority's work and the inclusion of the Wellbeing agenda into the Corporate Plan. He called for the North of Tyne area to become a centre of excellence for volunteering. Thanks were offered to Mr Fry for his work.

RESOLVED – That the Corporate Plan for the municipal year 2022-2023, including its ambitions and delivery priorities, be acknowledged and endorsed.

7 EQUALITY OBJECTIVES UPDATE

Submitted: A report of the Director of Policy and Performance (previously circulated and copy attached to Official Minutes).

The Cabinet considered the report, which provided the first annual update on NTCA's performance against its Equality Objectives 2021-2025. The report was introduced by the Mayor Driscoll and Councillor A Hay.

The Cabinet welcomed the report.

RESOLVED – That the progress made on NTCA’s Equality Objectives and wider equality and diversity ambitions be noted.

8 **SCRUTINY ANNUAL REPORT**

Submitted: A report of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (previously circulated and copy attached to Official Minutes).

The Cabinet considered the report, which set out information on the work of the North of Tyne Combined Authority’s Overview and Scrutiny Committee in the municipal year 2021-2022. The report was introduced by Councillor C Seymour, the Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

Councillor Seymour thanked the Vice-Chair of the committee, Councillor L Wright, and also the committee’s members and officers for their work and support. Thanks were offered to the Cabinet members and the Mayor for their cooperation and support.

The Mayor, on behalf of Cabinet, welcomed the successful relationship with the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and offered thanks to the committee’s Chair and members.

RESOLVED – That:

- i. the Annual Scrutiny Report be noted; and
- ii. the Cabinet noted that the use of the urgent decision power had not been required in the municipal year 2021-2022.

9 **2021/22 NTCA PROVISIONAL OUTTURN REPORT, INCLUDING NORTH EAST LEP AND INVEST NORTH EAST ENGLAND**

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

The Cabinet considered the report, which advised it on the provisional 2021-2022 financial outturn position of the North of Tyne Combined Authority (NTCA).

It was noted that the outturn position would be subject to external audit as part of the Audit of the 2021-2022 Statutory Accounts and therefore the figures set out in the report would remain provisional until the completion of the accounts.

The report also included the 2021-2022 outturn position for the North East LEP and Invest North East England, the organisations for which the Combined Authority was the Accountable Body.

The Mayor, on behalf of Cabinet, welcomed the report and congratulated the Authority for its efficiency despite all the challenges it had faced during this period.

Thanks were offered to H Kippin, the Managing Director, R Redfern, the Director of Policy and Performance, J Gillespie, the Chief Finance Officer, for the successful management of the Authority and also to their teams for their work.

RESOLVED – That:

- i. the NTCA provisional 2021/22 Outturn position for the Corporate Fund (as set out in section 2 of the report), Investment Fund (as set out in section 3 of the report) be noted;
- ii. the performance against the Brownfield Housing Capital Budget and Investment Fund Capital Budgets (as set out in section 4 of the report) be noted;
- iii. the performance against the Adult Education Budget (as set out in section 5 of the report) be noted;
- iv. the position on Reserves (as set out in section 6 of the report) be noted;
- v. The Accountable Body Budget Outturn position and the funding position (as set out in section 7 of the report) be noted;
- vi. The Combined Authority's Treasury Management performance (as set out in section 8 of the report) be noted;
- vii. The North East LEP 2021/22 Outturn position and 2-year Outline Budget position (as set out in Appendix A) be noted;
- viii. The Invest North East England 2021/22 Outturn position (as set out in Appendix B) be noted.

10 **NTCA PAY POLICY STATEMENT**

Submitted: A report of the Director of Policy and Performance (previously circulated and copy attached to Official Minutes).

The Cabinet considered the report which sought approval of the Combined Authority's Pay Policy Statement. The report set out relevant information to inform the Cabinet, including on the Statutory Officer roles and positions at the Authority.

The report was introduced by the Mayor who welcomed the Authority's position, which compared favourably against other combined authorities in the country.

RESOLVED – That:

- i. the NTCA Pay Policy Statement attached at Appendix A to the report be approved; and
- ii. the confirmation of NTCA's Statutory Officers as set out in paragraphs 2.2 to 2.5 of the report be noted.

11 INVESTMENT FUND UPDATE AND FUNDING APPROVALS

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

The Cabinet considered the report, which provided an update on progress with the North of Tyne Investment Fund and sought associated approvals.

Approval was also sought for a confidential project set out in an appendix to the report, as listed elsewhere on the agenda for the meeting.

The report was introduced by Councillor C Johnson, Cabinet Member for Investment and Resources.

The Cabinet welcomed the report. Thanks were offered to all teams involved in this work.

In discussion, it was noted that:

- In the context of forthcoming changes as a result of the Shared Prosperity Fund, the Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise (VCSE) sector representative addressed the Cabinet about the importance of working to protect and support the VCSE sector to enable the VCSE organisations to continue their work.
- It was emphasised that the Combined Authority considered the VCSE sector as a critical partner.
- Regarding the Shared Prosperity Fund, a further comment was made about the Authority's intention to do its best despite the challenges involved, and that consultations and discussions were already being held on this with organisations across the NTCA area.

RESOLVED – That:

- i. the progress to date on the Investment Fund, achievement of key milestones and ongoing project development work, particularly in respect of the creation of new jobs for residents as a direct result of the NTCA investments, be noted;
- ii. the progress on the NTCA's Skills For Growth Programme, the North East Screen Industries Partnership and the Discovery Museum Business Case Development projects be noted;
- iii. an allocation of £0.9m from the North of Tyne Investment Fund to enable the delivery of three Employment Partnerships be agreed and the Managing Director be authorised, in consultation with Investment Panel, the Mayor and the appropriate Cabinet Member, to consider and approve the business case and finalise delivery arrangements;

- iv. the recommendation and funding award set out in the confidential Appendix 1 to the report be approved;
- v. authority be delegated to the Managing Director, in consultation with the Mayor and Cabinet Members, to submit the Shared Prosperity Fund and Multiply Investment Plans to Government.

12 DATE AND TIME OF THE NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, 19 July 2022 at 2pm.

The Mayor reminded everyone present that it was the intention of the Authority to rotate its meetings across the publicly accessible venues of the constituent local authorities and partners. He thanked the North Tyneside Council for hosting this meeting.

13 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

There was no exclusion of press and public.

14 INVESTMENT FUND UPDATE AND FUNDING APPROVALS - APPENDIX

The Cabinet approved the recommendations set out in the document.